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NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

PROPOSED ENCOURAGEMENT OF STAR SERVICE FRAUDS.

REPORTS OF GEN. BRADY'S FRIENDS TO HAVE ALL HIGHWAYS DECLARED POST-ROUTES—A PERNICIOUS MEASURE WHICH WOULD PERPETUATE STAR ROUTE ABUSES.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The advocates of unlimited expenditures for the star mail service made a determined effort yesterday in the House to pass a bill declaring "all public roads and highways post-routes," and authorizing the Postmaster-General to put postal service on all such routes. The effect of the passage of such a measure would be to give the Post Office authorities full power to extend the star service over every public road in the country, and to make the Government liable for whatever expenditures they might deem necessary. The facts recently developed in connection with the star service show that it would be dangerous to lodge such power with the Post Office Department, unless stringent laws are passed off actually to prevent such abuses as have been practiced by Second Assistant Postmaster-General Brady in letting contracts for star routes. Under existing laws all railroads and steam-boat lines are declared to be post-routes, and the Postmaster-General is given authority to put postal service on them when the public necessity requires it; but the rate at which mails are carried on such routes are fixed by law, and not left to the discretion of the Postmaster-General, as in the case of star routes. The pending investigation of Gen. Brady's methods of conducting the star service shows that compensation for service on star routes has been raised upon the same order of that officer from $6,000 to $100,000 on a single route, and yet Gen. Brady was utterly unable to state how many Post Offices were on the routes where such increase was made, or to give any idea of the quantity of mail-matter carried on them. A better system for plundering the Treasury could not be devised than that under which the star service is now conducted, and the bill reported yesterday by the Committee on Post Offices proposed to perpetuate and localize this system. The advocates of the bill in question were checked by a point of order interposed by Mr. Blount, who insisted, and under the rule which requires that all bills involving an appropriation of public money shall have their first consideration in Committee of the Whole, the bill would have been sent to that committee had it not been withdrawn.

The star route advocates again came forward to-day with their bill in an amended form, the provision authorizing the Postmaster-General to put postal service on star routes at his discretion being omitted. As amended the bill simply declares "all public roads and highways post-routes." Even in this mild form the bill is objectionable, because, according to the theory and practice of Gen. Brady, the Post Office Department has the discretionary power to favolve the Government to any amount for mail service on star routes, notwithstanding the statutes positively forbid any officer to make the United States liable for pecuniary obligation in advance of a specific appropriation, or to expend in any fiscal year a greater sum, for any purpose whatever, than has been appropriated for that year. There can be no reasonable objection to extending the mail service on public highways when public necessity requires such extension, but experience has demonstrated that the Second Assistant Postmaster-General, who is charged with the duty of having the mails carried on all post-routes, already exercises a larger measure of discretionary power than is consistent with the public interest. If Gen. Brady can be permeated with what he calls the "discretion of the Post Office Department" to the extent of involving the Government for $2,000,000 in one year in excess of the specific sum appropriated by Congress for star service, ordinary business prudence would dictate that his discretion to waste the public funds should be checked, not extended.

It would seem from the votes to-day in seconding the demand for the previous question on the passage of the bill that Gen. Brady did not make an idle boast when he boldly declared that the Committee on Appropriations that he expected the friends of the star service in the House to sustain his unlawful extravagance in increasing the compensation of contractors for carrying the mails on star routes. The vote on seconding the demand for the previous question was yeas 83, nays 44. Less than a quorum voted, and the morning hour having expired, the bill went over until to-morrow. It is not of the proper extension of the mail service on star routes that complaint is made, but of the gross extravagance and suspicious methods which have recently marked the conduct of that service.

SUBJECTS FOR ACTION BY CONGRESS.

PROPOSED REPEAL OF PERMANENT APPROPRIATIONS—ABUSES BY OWNERS OF PATENTS—UNLOADING VESSELS AT NIGHT.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The Democrats manifest a determination to pass, if possible, the bill repealing the laws relating to permanent and indefinite appropriations, introduced soon after the beginning of the session by Senator Davis, of West Virginia. This bill repeals all laws heretofore made for the appropriation of money for permanent, specific, and indefinite and permanent annual objects, except so far as they provide appropriations for the sinking fund, for payment of interest or principal of the public debt, or of bonds issued to the Pacific Railroad Companies. The action proposed is a very important one, involving many millions of dollars each year. The bill also provides that, upon its passage, the head of each department shall transmit estimates in the usual way to Congress of the amounts each department will require for the ensuing year; but the act is not to interfere with the laws relating to public buildings, or to prevent the payment of annuities to Indians, or with any money held in trust for a specific purpose. The subject was introduced in the Senate by the passage of a resolution offered by Mr. Davis, calling upon the Secretary of the Treasury for information concerning the amount involved in these appropriations, and at that time Mr. Davis said that he understood the annual sum was over $60,000,000. He held that Congress should have supervision of these as well as other appropriations. When he offered the bill some days afterward, he declared that the Secretary approved of most and probably all of the repeals provided for in it, and he read the recommendation contained in the Secretary's annual report, that all appropriations, except for the interest on the public debt, should be limited to a period not exceeding two years and their expenditure confined to the period for which they were appropriated; also, that all permanent and indefinite appropriations, made more than four years ago, except for the public debt, should be repealed. But the Senate Committee on Appropriations, of which Mr. Davis is Chairman, recently sent the bill to the Secretary, with a request that he should express to them his views upon it. The Secretary replied that the bill in its present form was not satisfactory to him, and suggested that several exceptions be made in addition to those named in the bill. Democratic members of the committee now say that they did not expect the Secretary would approve of so much of the bill as he did, notwithstanding the statement made in the Senate by Mr. Davis, and they are determined to secure, if possible, the passage of the bill as it stands. They desire to get it out of the committee as soon as they can, and obtain action upon it at as early a date as possible, for the reason that radical changes will become necessary in the appropriation bills should the bill in question be passed.

The bills introduced by Mr. Baker in the House, having for their object the protection of Revenue and others, who assert that they have been persecuted and put to great expense by informers and confederates who bring actions against them in United States courts for alleged violations of the revenue laws, continuously for buying in use the driven wells, have been followed by a bill, submitted in the Senate this week by Mr. Windom, of Minnesota. Mr. Baker's bills and the persecutions which led to their introduction have been fully described in THE TIMES. Mr. Windom's bill provides that in any suit brought in any court having jurisdiction in patent cases, for an alleged infringement of any patented article, where it shall appear that the defendant bought the article in good faith from the manufacturer or from some one engaged in the open sale and practical application of it, and used it for his own purposes and not for sale, if the plaintiff shall recover merely nominal damages the court shall compel him to pay all the costs, and if the plaintiff shall not recover $20 the court shall compel him to pay his own costs, unless it shall appear that the defendant, when he bought and applied the article, had knowledge or actual notice of the existence of the patent. The passage of such laws as are advocated in these bills will bring relief to farmers in the East as well as in the West.

Among the bills recently introduced in the House is one by Mr. Ross, of New-Jersey, appropriating $15,000 for the erection of a light-house at Mill Reef, Bergen Point, N. J., directly opposite New-Brighton, Staten Island. Another, introduced by Mr. Van Voorhis, proposes to amend the section of the Revised Statutes which defines the boundaries of the Seventh Collection District of New-York, known as the District of Genesee. The present limits of the district are the western extremity of Sodus Bay, on the west, and the eastern extremity of Oak-orchard Creek, on the east. The bill provides that the eastern boundary shall be the eastern extremity of Golden Hill Creek.

By section 2,871, Revised Statutes, the Collector of any port, with the concurrence of the Naval Officer, where there is one, is authorized to grant to steam-ships arriving from foreign ports a special license to unload their cargoes at night under certain conditions, and to collect a reasonable compensation, to be distributed among the inspectors who superintend the unloading of the cargoes. Mr. Miner has introduced a bill to amend this section so that such special licenses may be granted to sailing vessels as well as steam-ships, and to that the word "inspectors" may be held to include all officers of Customs assigned to superintend unloading in the night.

The House Committee on Coinage, Weights, and Measures adopted to-day several important amendments to Representative Warner's bill to stop paper inflation and provide for an increase in the volume of currency by the free coinage of gold and silver and the issue of gold and silver certificates. The bill, as amended, is as follows:

Be it enacted, &c., That from and after the passage of this act the issue of additional national bank notes, designed to circulate as currency, shall cease, and the volume of such notes shall not be increased beyond the amount which the banks may be entitled to receive at the date of the passage of this act.

SEC. 2. For any needed increase of currency the Mints of the United States shall be open to the public for the coinage of gold and silver into standard coins on the same terms and conditions as to receipt and coinage, gold coins to be returned for gold bullion and silver coins for silver bullion.

SEC. 3. Certificates in denominations now authorized by law shall be issued upon bullion and coin of the two metals deposited with the Treasurer or any Assistant Treasurer of the United States on the same conditions, and subject to like regulations, which the Secretary of the Treasury shall prescribe, and shall be alike receivable for all dues to the Government. Such certificates, if issued on bullion, shall specify the weight and nominal value of the bullion in standard coin of that metal, and shall be redeemable at the place of issue in the same metal; if issued in coin, they shall specify the kind of coin on which they are issued; and certificates issued on coin shall be payable only in coin of like metal. All coin and bullion for which certificates are outstanding shall be retained in the Treasury for the redemption of the same. *Provided*, that coin certificates returned to the Treasury in payment of dues to the Government may be reissued, but bullion certificates so returned shall be cancelled, and the bullion for which they were issued shall be converted into coin.

The Committee of Ways and Means continued this morning the hearing of gentlemen interested in the sugar business and in the proposition to modify the tariff. Mr. Searles made some closing explanations, and, in reply to questions asked by Mr. Kelley, stated that the greatest amount of the moisture found in raw sugars is found in muscovado sugars imported in hogsheads, and the least moisture in the centrifugal sugars, particularly those imported in bags and boxes. He also gave some figures in relation to the profits and losses of sugar refining. Mr. Nathaniel McKay, of Philadelphia, gave the results of investigations made by him in the Island of Demerara, the object being to show that raw sugars were not, as charged by the Treasury Department, artificially colored there by acids in order to defraud the revenue. Mr. Danford Knowlton, of New-York, made an argument in opposition to the ad valorem principle of taxing sugar, and in favor of a specific duty. He suggested that the sugars of commerce should be divided into two classes—raw and refined—placing a proper duty on each (as was the system of the tariff of 1834,) and intimated that a quality of sugar corresponding with No. 16 Dutch Standard, would be a proper dividing line. Being asked to state what duty he would recommend, Mr. Knowlton suggested 2 cents a pound on all sugars up to and including No. 16; and ¼, ⅜, or ½ cent additional on all sugars higher than No. 16, the average duty last year being 2 38-100 cents per pound. He complained of the orders of the Secretary of the Treasury modifying the law by the taxation of sugar, not on color alone, as required by law, but on the crystallizable percentage of sugar. He characterized the action of the Secretary as not only inimical to the rights and interests of the importer, but as being an invasion or usurpation of the rights of Congress. The hearing will be continued to-morrow and Saturday.

THE RIGHTS OF TRAVELERS.

A JUDGMENT WHICH THE PULLMAN SLEEPING CAR COMPANY WILL HAVE TO PAY.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—A case of general interest has just been decided by the Supreme Court of this District. Frederick A. Lehman, of this city, found it necessary to visit New-York on important business, and, being in delicate health, purchased a ticket for a berth in a Pullman sleeping car, which he was assured by the ticket agent would be attached to the train at Alexandria and brought to Hyattsville, where it would be joined to the New-York train. The "sleeper" was not attached until the train reached Baltimore, and of this the plaintiff was not informed. Supposing that no sleeping car had been attached, he remained all night in an ordinary car, caught cold, and was made sick. Lehman brought suit in the Circuit Court against the Pullman Car Company, laying damages at $5,000, and obtained a verdict for $300 and costs of suit. The Pullman Company appealed to the Supreme Court. The defense was that the railroad company, having the entire control of the movements of these cars, that company, and not the Pullman Palace Car Company, was responsible. Justice Cox, in affirming the decision of the court below, discussed the relations the two companies bore to each other, and held that Lehman, having bought and paid for the privilege of a sleeping-car berth from Washington to New-York, was, therefore, entitled to it for the whole distance, and the company, having failed to furnish the accommodations for which it had received full compensation, was liable.

THE DEBT OF LOUISIANA.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—An original bill has been filed in the Supreme Court by the State of New-Hampshire against the State of Louisiana and others, setting forth that the authorities of the latter State, under the provisions of the Constitution adopted in 1879, are about to use the proceeds of the taxes levied for the year 1879, under the act of 1874, to defray the expenses of the State Government, instead of devoting them, as they should devote them, to the payment of the principal and interest of the consolidated bonds issued by the State under the law known as act number 2 of the Statutes of 1874. The bill also sets forth that the State of New-Hampshire is the owner of six of the said consolidated bonds, and prays that the provisions of the new Constitution of Louisiana, in so far as they conflict with the contract expressed in the bonds and the act of 1874, may be adjudged void and unconstitutional as impairing the obligation of a contract. The bill also prays for an injunction to restrain the State officers of Louisiana from using the proceeds of the taxes for any other purpose than those specified in the act of 1874.

THE FUSIONISTS YIELDING

TRYING TO RETREAT GRACEFULLY FROM THEIR POSITION.

AGREEING TO AN ADJOURNMENT OF THEIR ILLEGAL LEGISLATURE UNTIL AUGUST—PROBABILITY THAT MANY OF THE FUSIONISTS WILL JOIN THE LEGAL BODY.

AUGUSTA, Me., Jan. 28.—The Fusionists held a protracted caucus this afternoon, there being about 35 members in the House, and 9 in the Senate. The reporters and all outsiders were excluded. The session continued all the afternoon. The opinion of the court was freely discussed, the debate taking about the same range as previous talk upon the subject. Several of those who were at first in favor of standing out, regardless of the court's decision, held to their ground. The more conservative members were in favor of yielding and not fighting against the inevitable. It was finally voted to adjourn until the first Wednesday in August. No division of vote was called in either branch, and no member recorded himself for or against the measure. The proposition was simply declared carried, and the Fusion Legislature adjourned. Some Fusionists claim that it is their honest purpose and intention to meet on the day named, and that they will enter upon heavy campaign work for the next election, endeavor to have two returns of Congressional votes, one to be sent to them, and another to the Legislature, as recognized by the courts, and that they will make up a case to Congress concerning the Electoral vote.

The Republicans, and many Fusionists, say that such an adjournment was the easiest possible way of letting down the counted-in members, who have given their associates a great deal of trouble; that the Fusion Legislature will never again meet, as will be shown to-morrow by its members taking seats in the regular Legislature, and that the course pursued was an indirect method of dissolving. If the members go home, they will soon be returned by their constituents to look out for important interests coming before the Legislature this session. There will be the lever that will move the towns, which in turn will move the Representatives. The Legislature will declare vacant all seats which are not now filled, and new elections will be ordered.

Major Smith will start for home on the early morning train, to attend to his lumber business. He holds the same views as expressed in the dispatches last night, and recommends the quiet submission of all good citizens to the will of the court. He will never agree to a proposition that the Fusion Legislature shall come together again. Of the Fusion Senators who will take seats at the Senatorial board, the following may be safely mentioned: Messrs. Strickland, of Lincoln; Thompson, of Knox; Atwell, Barker, and Rogers, of Penobscot; Linn, of Somerset, and Ellis, of Waldo. The five remaining are doubtful as this hour. Mr. Patten, of Penobscot, has telegraphed to his people for instructions. Mr. Parlin, of Somerset, will probably go home. Speaker Talbot says he cannot take his seat in the House, but Messrs. Hobson, Wilson, Long, Hussey, Knowles, and, in fact, the leading men among the Fusionists, will come in quietly to-morrow and take their seats. About one-fourth will come in to-morrow, and the remainder will go home for a brief visit to friends, and then enough will return to make up about two-thirds of the entire number.

Fusion Secretary of State Sawyer has promised to return the valuation books to the office of the Secretary of State, and it is thought that he will not claim to be Secretary any longer. State Treasurer White was unable to be here to-day, but telegraphed to the Finance Committee that he would read the opinion and meet it to-morrow, his only desire having been to secure himself and bondsmen against loss. The opinion prevails that he will freely surrender the keys and property of the office as soon as his successor is qualified.

Only one company of Militia is now at the State-house, and that will soon be relieved from duty. It is the opinion on all sides that the contest is at an end.

In the Senate, the Committee on Judiciary was ordered to inquire as to amending the Constitution of the State by abolishing the Council, providing for the election of an Auditor, and constituting the heads of departments advisers of the Governor.

In the House, Mr. Hill, of Corinth, and Mr. Milliken, of Burnham, Fusionists, appeared and took their seats.

The committee to investigate the question whether enlistments or enrollments of men had been made, held its first session this afternoon. Mayor Nash, of this city, testified that he was fully satisfied that enlistments had been made here. On Dec. 26, he sent a note to Gov. Garcelon tendering his services with a sufficient number of policemen to keep the peace, and suggesting that he refrain from calling out the troops, as that would excite the people and might lead to a bad result. A committee of the City Council and also of the citizens informed the Governor that this was the feeling and sentiment of the people. The Governor paid no attention to this, but he [Nash] was well satisfied that an organization was being formed here in the office of R. W. Black, the object of which was to sustain Gov. Garcelon and hold the State house. It was notorious about town that these men came to this building and occupied it every night. They drilled nightly with arms brought from the Bangor Arsenal. City Marshal Charles H. White testified that it was well understood that Black had 150 men drilling in the Bradbury Hall. One John Leighton, whom they had discharged because he was suspected of voting the Republican ticket, said the men were bound together by an oath, and they were expected to do what they were ordered to do. After further testimony, the committee adjourned until to-morrow afternoon.

PORTLAND, Maine, Jan. 28.—The *New Era*, the leading Greenback organ, submits to the decision of the Supreme Court, and appeals to the people. It also calls upon the press to publish a declaration of the principles of the Brick Pomeroy leagues, thus admitting their connection with them.

EVADING A FORCED MARRIAGE.

A WEDDING AT THE MUZZLE OF A SHOT-GUN—SUED BY HIS VICTIM'S FATHER.

LEAVENWORTH, Kan., Jan. 28.—In the District Court to-day, in the case of McKeehen against Moose, a motion for a new trial was overruled, to which exception was taken. The case is one of remarkable interest. On June 30, 1879, the father of Hattie L. Moose, a beautiful young country girl, 17 years old, living about 12 miles from this city in the southern part of the county, came into the office of the Probate Judge, and obtained a marriage license to unite his daughter and Allison McKeehen, the present plaintiff, who was at the time a wealthy country merchant in the Village of Tonganoxie, and whose age is 32. The license was unsuspectingly granted. Moose went home, and McKeehen was invited to call at his house that evening, which invitation the latter accepted with an alacrity which, perhaps, is better understood when it is known that Miss Moose had confessed that there had been criminal relations existing between them. Soon after his arrival, however, McKeehen was confronted, as his statement alleges, with the stalwart farmer, armed with a shot-gun and two revolvers, and was informed that unless he married his victim he had just five minutes to live. He consented, after vainly endeavoring to argue the question. Still keeping him covered with the shot-gun, a Justice of the Peace was sent for by the father and the ceremony was performed. McKeehen was then informed that he might go or stay.

He chose the former course, and in a short time brought suit to have the marriage set aside, on the ground of fraud, violence, &c. The defendant put in a counter-charge of seduction, claiming $5,000 damages. Last week a decree was entered setting aside the marriage, and a motion was made by the defendant for a new trial, which was heard to-day, as above stated. All the parties are respectably connected, and the young girl created a sensation in the court-room by her beauty, quiet manner, and refined action. Much sympathy was expressed for her. McKeehen, it is said, will now be prosecuted for seduction.

A WESTERN BANKER'S DEATH.

SUDDEN AND FATAL ILLNESS IN THIS CITY OF HORACE THOMPSON, OF ST. PAUL.

ST. PAUL, Minn., Jan. 28.—The announcement of the death of Horace Thompson, of this city, at the Fifth-Avenue Hotel, in New-York City, last night, caused general surprise and profound regret in St. Paul, of which city he was, perhaps, the most prominent banker and capitalist. Mr. Thompson was born in Vermont in 1829, and removed to Georgia while a young man. He came to St. Paul about 1850, and established himself in the banking business with his brother, the late J. E. Thompson. Together they founded the First National Bank of this city, one of the earliest institutions chartered under the National Banking law. Upon the death of his brother, in 1870, Horace Thompson, formerly Cashier, became President of the bank, and remained in that office until his death. Under his management, the bank became a leading financial institution of the North-west. Mr. Thompson was also one of the original incorporators of the St. Paul and Sioux City Railroad, and was Treasurer of the company until his death. He was prominent in many other semi public-enterprises for the development of the city and State, and though he never filled political office, stood in the first rank of public-spirited private citizens. His fortune is estimated at from $1,000,000 to $2,000,000. Mr. Thompson went to New-York a few days ago, in company with his family and President Drake, of the Sioux City Railroad, on business connected with the company, which made several extensions and purchases of connecting roads last Summer. The first news of his attack only reached St. Paul a few hours before his death. He leaves a wife and two sons.

Horace Thompson, one of the wealthiest and most prominent citizens of St. Paul, Minn., died of pneumonia, in the Fifth-Avenue Hotel, at 1 o'clock yesterday morning. He came to this City, with his wife and daughter and a party of Western friends, about 10 days ago, and was apparently in the best of health until last Saturday, when he was suddenly taken ill. Drs. Hamilton and Leaming were called in to attend him, but all their skill was powerless. He died surrounded by his friends, and last evening the body, accompanied by Mrs. and Miss Thompson and Thomas Cochran, a friend of the family, started for St. Paul, where the funeral services will be held on Sunday next.

SOLID FOR GRANT.

THE REPUBLICANS OF NORTH CAROLINA TO SEND A UNANIMOUS DELEGATION TO CHICAGO.

RALEIGH, N. C., Jan. 28.—The Republican State Committee will meet here to-morrow. Every member will be present. It is now indicated that the committee will appoint four delegates at large to the Chicago Convention, and that the Republican committees of the Congressional districts will appoint the other 16. The four at large will undoubtedly be for Gen. Grant for President. The reports from the Congressional districts represent that the feeling is so strong among the Republican masses that a solid delegation for Grant will be sent from each district. But for the item of expense to the delegates, a State Convention would be called to elect the delegates for the whole State, and for the purpose of organizing for the campaign. Every member of the committee who lives outside of this city reports that the sentiment in his part of the State presents a marked change from that of 1876, in favor of the Republicans. The opinion is freely expressed that the Republicans are sure to carry the State in November next. On account of this change there is no defection among the Republicans, either white or black, but there is conclusive evidence that there is an alarming defection among the masses of the Democratic Party. Nothing is feared except tissue ballots and systematic frauds by the Democratic election officers. If Gen. Grant is not a candidate, Elihu B. Washburne will receive several votes from this State. There seems to be strong opposition to either Blaine or Sherman. The two office-holders on the committee—W. P. Canaday, Collector of the Port of Wilmington, and J. J. Mott, Collector of Internal Revenue—are for Sherman, but they have no following on the committee or among the masses.

THE REV. DR. BELLOWS INELIGIBLE.

THE HARVARD BOARD OF OVERSEERS DECLARE HIS ELECTION NULL AND VOID.

BOSTON, Jan. 28.—The Board of Overseers of Harvard College, at a meeting to-day, at which Judge Hoar presided, voted that the Rev. Dr. Bellows, elected by the Alumni at the last election a member of the board, is ineligible, notwithstanding the report of the committee of the board—all lawyers—appointed to consider his case, in favor of his eligibility. The ground of his rejection is that he is not an inhabitant of the Commonwealth, and was not at the time of the election. The vote was 13 against him, to 8 in his favor. It is stated that the lawyers in the board were very evenly divided when the question came before it, and the discussion, which was long and thorough, was carried on mostly by them. It was voted that "the Committee on Elections be requested to consider and report whether, in view of the vote of the Overseers declaring the Rev. H. W. Bellows, D. D., ineligible, as an Overseer, there is any vacancy in the board, or whether the person having the next highest number of votes to those already decided to be chosen for six years is an elected member of the board."

OPPOSED TO PINCHBACK.

NEW-ORLEANS, La., Jan. 28.—The President and Secretary of the Colored Men's Protective Union sent a protest this evening against Pinchback's appointment as Naval Officer. The State Republican Committee also protests against Pinchback, and requests delay until the arrival of Chairman Dumont, who left here to-day, with Collector Badger and ex-State Senator Burch, for Washington.

GEN. GRANT IN HAVANA.

HAVANA, Jan. 28.—Gen. Grant and party attended the American Circus last night, and left here for the Vuelta Abajo this morning. They will probably return to Havana on Saturday. The King has returned thanks to Gen. Grant for his dispatch of congratulation upon the occasion of his patron saint's day. It is said that Gen. Grant will not go to Nicaragua.

PENNSYLVANIA RIOT LOSSES.

PHILADELPHIA, Penn., Jan. 28.—The $1,600,000 which the Pennsylvania Railroad Company agree to accept in full for its claims against Allegheny County on account of the riot losses has been paid over to the company, and the county is now engaged in settling the other claims which, it is expected, will be compromised for a total of about $210,000.

GREENFIELD AGAIN RESPITED.

SARAGUSA, Jan. 28.—Orlando Greenfield, the convicted wife-murderer, has been respited by Gov. Cornell until the 27th of February. He was to have been hanged on Friday next.

NEW-JERSEY REPUBLICANS.

NEWARK, Jan. 28.—The Republican State Committee has called a State Convention to meet at Trenton on Thursday, May 6, to elect delegates to the Chicago Convention.

ST. LOUIS, Mo., Jan. 28.—The Laclede Iron Works in North St. Louis, resumed work to-day after a suspension of nearly a year. They employ about 500 men.

THE LATEST FOREIGN NEWS

EUROPEAN POLITICAL AFFAIRS.

EXCITEMENT CAUSED BY THE INCREASE OF THE GERMAN ARMY—THE PROBABLE ACTION OF ENGLAND IN AFGHANISTAN.

BERLIN, Jan. 28.—The *National Zeitung*, discussing the proposed increase of the Army, says: "The German nation is almost unanimous in its approval of Prince Bismarck's resolution to resist Panslavism as soon as it shows itself becoming an active and aggressive power. As yet Germany preserves friendly relations with official Russia, but Europe can only be thoroughly quieted by exertions in the place whence the causes of her agitation have proceeded. The assurances of peace from the Russian press ought to be received with great satisfaction, but it must not be forgotten that it is more easy to excite fears than to pacify them."

LIVERPOOL, Jan. 28.—Lord Sandon, (Conservative,) member of the House of Commons for Liverpool, and a member of the British Cabinet, addressed a great Conservative meeting here last night in support of the Conservative candidate for the seat in the House made vacant by the death of Mr. John Torr.

BARCELONA, Jan. 28.—A number of revolutionary papers have been seized here, and six Internationalists have been arrested.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—Lord Ramsey having promised the Liverpool Home Rulers to support an inquiry into the question of home rule, they have determined to give him their votes as candidate at the Liverpool elections.

A Bombay dispatch says it is generally believed that an army corps will advance to Herat, and that that district will be transferred to Persia. All officers belonging to the Kabul Division now on leave are ordered to rejoin their commands by March 15, urban operations throughout Afghanistan will recommence.

A Kabul dispatch says the Ghuznees have sent word to Gen. Roberts that they have determined to fight to the last extremity unless Yakoob Khan is reinstated in Kabul as Ameer.

A Paris dispatch announces that the Count de St. Vallier has withdrawn his resignation of the Ambassadorship to Berlin.

Another Paris dispatch says the Left Centre have decided not to amalgamate with any other Group.

A Berlin dispatch says the *National Zeitung's* St. Petersburg letter states that the increase of the German Army has fallen like a thunderbolt upon the Russian people.

A dispatch from Vienna says: "An Imperial Irade has been issued authorizing the Turkish Ministry to negotiate the Greek question upon a new basis projected by Greece. The sittings of the Turco-Greek Commission will therefore be resumed."

CURRENT FOREIGN TOPICS.

BUCHAREST, Jan. 28.—The bill for the purchase of the Roumanian railways by the State has been adopted in the Chamber of Deputies.

The Administrative Palace at Jassy, the ancient capital of Moldavia, has been entirely destroyed by fire. It is believed that the fire was of incendiary origin.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The two Americans arrested in Naples, charged with the robbery, at Brussels, of a Russian naval officer of 85,000 francs, are John Collins, who is about 16 years old, and a man named Cleveland, alias Everest, alias Ferguson, about 28 years old. The Government of Belgium has made a demand for their extradition.

A dispatch from Madrid says: "The medical men differ about the mental condition of Francisco Otero Gonzalez, the would-be regicide. Some say that he is sane, while others declare that he is an imbecile. His trial, therefore, will proceed."

A GREAT EUROPEAN OIL-FIELD.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—A dispatch from Berlin says the borings in the Hanover petroleum region are now 60 feet deep, and the existence of a basin as large and rich as the one in Pennsylvania is regarded as beyond doubt by mining experts. The deepest borings already yield four hundredweights of oil per well daily, and as the oil is becoming more and more inflammable as the bore approaches the basin, the discovery of a European oil region may be pronounced impending. The borings are exclusively in the hands of Hamburg and Bremen firms engaged in the American trade.

A NEW-YORK DEFAULTER ARRESTED.

LONDON, Jan. 29.—A correspondent at Paris reports that a clerk in a New-York bank, who absconded with $20,000, has been arrested in Paris, with $10,000 on his person. The clerk states that he left $5,000 in New-Haven, and $2,500 at Southampton.

PENNSYLVANIA'S PREFERENCE.

THE REPUBLICAN DELEGATION TO BE A UNIT IN FAVOR OF GRANT.

PHILADELPHIA, Jan. 28.—It was stated this evening by a gentleman who had just returned from Washington that the proceedings of the Pennsylvania State Convention next week would be substantially as follows: A resolution will be introduced, first, to instruct the delegates to the National Convention to vote as a unit, and next to instruct them to vote for Gen. Grant as the Presidential nominee. At a conference held in Washington with a number of Pennsylvania's leading Republicans, early this week, arguments were used with a view to induce Senator Cameron to allow the delegates to Chicago to remain uninstructed and to be guided by the course of events. The Senator, while giving courteous attention to the proposal, declined it emphatically, and announced his willingness to try the experiment of having the Pennsylvania convention indorse Gen. Grant, believing that it would be carried by a large majority. The Senator felt that if Pennsylvania would declare for Gen. Grant, the remainder of the States would follow, one after another, and there would be no trouble in nominating the General at Chicago on the first ballot. The conference adjourned with the understanding that the Pennsylvania State Convention would declare for Grant.

THE SPRAGUE ESTATE.

TRUSTEE'S REPORT OF THE OPERATIONS OF THE MANUFACTURING COMPANY.

PROVIDENCE, R. I., Jan. 28.—The creditors of the A. & W. Sprague Manufacturing Company received the following report from the Trustee, Zachariah Chafee, this evening:

To the Creditors of the A. & W. Sprague Manufacturing Company:

The Trustee herewith presents his annual statement of the results of operations for the year ending Dec. 31, 1879: Net profits of manufacturing, after deducting Aquidneck Company commission, expenses, office, interest on Aquidneck Co.'s account, and amount paid Amasa and William Sprague, $256,092 41; receipts from dividends, rents, &c., $52,987 75. Total, $309,080 16. Applied as follows: Liabilities reduced during the year (only $9,000, of which was outstanding at date of the trust deed,) $290,838 91; assets reduced during the year, $160,220 74, making the net decrease in liabilities, $230,013 17. Paid for new and additional machinery, (charged to estate accounts,) $12,378 26; paid taxes, insurance, expense, interest, and repairs on property, (in addition to amount charged to manufacturers,) which would have had to be paid were the machinery idle, $66,088 73. In addition to the above, there has been paid and charged to manufacturing as follows: For new machinery to replace old, repairs and improvements on machinery, and painting and shingling tenements, all of which is over and above ordinary repairs, $52,082 59; for taxes and insurance on manufacturing property, $36,198 09, total, $8,377 68.

By the above it will be seen that the estate is $358,071 07 better off for the machinery having been kept in operation during the year. The principal part of the earnings, as by the statement, has been made during the last four months, and from the present prospects of business, I hope and expect to be able to pay a dividend from the earnings on the 1st of July next. The net earnings of the Aquidneck Company, after rebuilding the settle dam, and payments made on account of new wheel, taxes, and insurance, are $121,201 17.

FAINLY OBSTRUCTING JUSTICE.

THE CONVICTION OF RYAN, THE KINGSTON RIOTER, AFFIRMED BY THE COURT OF APPEALS.

KINGSTON, N. Y., Jan. 28.—The Court of Appeals yesterday affirmed the judgment and conviction of William Ryan, the political rioter, who was convicted in this county in June last and sentenced to imprisonment in the Albany Penitentiary. At the town meeting, held in the Town of Kingston, in this county, in March last, a gang of 200 roughs took possession of the polls and prevented the tax-payers from voting. Those who did attempt to vote were knocked down and beaten. Among them was old John Souser, about 70 years of age, who denounced the ruffians in unmeasured terms. For this he was set upon by William Ryan, one of the leaders of the gang, who broke his jaw and ankle bones. Ryan was indicted by the Grand Jury in April, and on May 28 the Legislature passed chapter 390 of the Laws of 1879, which gives to Courts of Special Sessions and Justices of the Peace exclusive jurisdiction to try cases of assault and battery. Ryan was brought up for trial at the Ulster Sessions in June, when his counsel moved for his discharge upon the ground that chapter 390 of the Laws of 1879 had deprived the court of jurisdiction to try the case. The District Attorney, claiming that the act did not apply to indictments found before its passage, the court refused to discharge, and Ryan was tried, convicted, and sentenced. Judge Ingalls thereupon granted a stay of proceedings and writ of error, and the case went to the General Term, where it was argued, at Saratoga, in September last. The court reserved its decision until the Albany term, in November, when, Judge Learned writing the opinion, it affirmed the conviction. Counsel for Ryan then applied, successively, to Judges Learned, Ingalls, and Osborn for a writ of error and stay of proceedings, to enable them to take the case to the Court of Appeals, all of whom denied the application. Finally, they obtained a writ of error from Judge Westbrook, sending the case to the Court of Appeals, where it was argued, on Jan. 14, by the Hon. F. L. Westbrook for Ryan and District Attorney Clearwater, of Ulster, for the people. Yesterday that court affirmed the judgment of the Ulster Sessions and of the Supreme Court, and Ryan will serve out his term. The case has attracted much attention throughout the State, from the fact that the proceedings at the town meeting were investigated by a Legislative Committee, and because of its being the first case which has arisen under chapter 390 of the Laws of 1879.

A LABORERS' RACE CONFLICT.

VIRGINIA MILITIA CALLED OUT TO PREVENT A COLLISION BETWEEN WHITE AND BLACK WORKMEN.

RICHMOND, Va., Jan. 28.—Telegrams received here this morning state that intense excitement prevails in Shenandoah County in consequence of an apprehended collision between the white and black laborers at Columbia Furnace, near Edinburg, in that county. Gov. Holliday received a telegram from Sheriff Joseph Stickley, of Shenandoah, asking for the assistance of troops to aid in quelling the riot; also, one from Capt. J. W. Magruder, of the Woodstock military company, stating that he has notice of a serious riot at the point mentioned, and asking for orders what to do. The Governor immediately replied to Capt. Magruder, directing him to place his command at the disposal of Sheriff Stickley and the Commonwealth's Attorney, H. C. Allen, for the preservation of the peace, and to keep him [the Governor] advised of events. Other telegrams received by members of the Legislature from the Shenandoah Valley confirm the above reports. The trouble, as far as can be ascertained, has its origin in the fact that John W. Whistler & Co., the proprietors of the Columbia and Liberty Furnaces, are substituting colored for white labor in their works. These works have heretofore been almost entirely run by white operatives, who live and own their little homes in the neighborhood of the furnaces, and who have no other means of support than their daily labor, while the negroes, who are replacing them, are imported from other counties where the negro element prevails to a greater extent than in Shenandoah, which county has but a very small colored population.

State Senator H. H. Reddleber, of Shenandoah County, to-night received a dispatch from Woodstock, in which the sender says: "I left Columbia Furnace at 4 o'clock this afternoon. There was no trouble there, and Dr. Armstrong reported everything quiet at Liberty Furnace. Last night some negroes were attacked at Liberty Furnace and two men were wounded. The rioters then dispersed, threatening to return to-night. A dispatch stating that the rioters are now 200 strong, and asking for military reinforcement, has just been received from the Sheriff." Acting Commonwealth Attorney H. C. Allen has telegraphed the Governor as follows: "I have just received communications from the Sheriff and Capt. Magruder at Liberty Furnace, 12 miles from here. All is now quiet, but trouble is apprehended, and more men are needed at once. The Winchester company could be ordered up to-night. The Sheriff says that a considerable number of rioters seem to be organizing. Last night two negroes were shot and severely hurt." In response to these advices, Gov. Holliday has telegraphed to Capt. James B. Burgess, commanding the Winchester Light Infantry, ordering him to proceed with his company to the scene of disturbance by the first train, and place himself at the disposal of the Sheriff.

PROPOSED NEW RAILWAY.

MONTREAL, Quebec, Jan. 28.—G. B. Phelps, an extensive railway contractor from the United States, is here making application for a charter for a new line of railroad from Longueuil to Chambly, to connect with the Rome and Watertown Railroad, at Potsdam Junction, N. Y. The proposed line would bring the port of Montreal into direct communication with Central New-York. The promoters will not ask any Provincial or municipal assistance, and the directorate will be composed principally of Canadians.

ENGLISH RACING WEIGHTS.

THE SCHEDULE FOR THE SPRING HANDICAP RACES AT EPSOM.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The weights for the handicap races for the Epsom Spring meeting are announced. For the race for the City and Suburban Handicap, which will take place on Thursday, the 22d of April, Mr. P. Lorillard's entries will carry weights as follows: Br. g. Parole, aged, will carry the top weight,

pounts the library which he had desired should be established was introduced by Mr. Smith Clark, of Chautauqua. It was submitted, with an explanation which secured for it general approbation, without much examination of the bill. To-day, when it came up on its third reading, Mr. Bradley, of Westchester, objected to its passage because it proposed to exempt certain property from taxation, in addition to the library building. Mr. Skinner found opportunity during the discussion to protest against the exemption of any property from bearing its share of the burden of taxation, when that property enjoyed the protection of the State. The vote by which the bill was first passed, under protest, was reconsidered, on Mr. Alvord's motion, and the bill was so amended as to exempt the property from local taxation only, when it was again passed. Chamberlain, Crapser, and Skinner voting in the negative.

Immediately after the reading of the Journal this morning, Mr. Charles Stuart Parnell, accompanied by Mr. Jules O'Brien, of Erie, and Mr. Clancy, of Kings, came upon the floor. Mr. Husted, who did not recognize Mr. O'Brien, but took him for one of Mr. Parnell's party, rose promptly and said that he observed that two distinguished gentlemen were upon the floor who were seeking relief for their distressed fellow-citizens, and as it had been customary in such cases to extend courtesies to distinguished visitors, he moved a recess of 15 minutes, which was taken. Mr. Parnell then advanced to the left of the Speaker's desk, was introduced to Speaker Sharpe, and shook hands with a large number of the members.

Mr. Mitchell provoked some discussion about the janitors of the City courts by moving some amendments when Mr. Deane's bill came up on its third reading. His amendments sought to limit the number of janitors to one for each court building. Mr. Deane objected to this, saying that his bill, as worded, was entirely satisfactory to the Justices as it stood. As the bill seemed to be in some danger, Mr. Deane was willing to have it laid on the table. Mr. Cohen's bill to exempt certain charitable societies and institutions from the payment of water taxes got a slight shaking up on a motion by Mr. Varnum that the Cities Committee be discharged from further consideration of it, and that it be referred to the Ways and Means Committee. Dr. Hayes and Mr. Cohen had objections to offer, but Mr. Alvord thought that this was again an opportunity to inquire about the matter of exemption from taxation, and the bill went to the Ways and Means Committee. Mr. Grosse's bill to prohibit the manufacture of cigars in tenements was reported from the Committee on Trades and Manufactures for the consideration of the House.

Mr. Varnum to-day introduced the two bills which he introduced last year, to reduce the expenses of the City of New-York. They were then discussed repeatedly in the House and in committee, but failed to pass, through interminable delay on the part of the Cities Committee to report them. One defines the powers of the Board of Estimate and Apportionment, limiting the amount which it shall appropriate from year to year, and the complementary bill specifies how the amounts to be appropriated for City expenditures shall be distributed so as to effect a saving in each succeeding year. They were referred to the Cities Committee.

Dr. Hayes introduced a bill to authorize the Governor to appoint, by and with the advice and consent of the Senate, a commission to examine into the management of State asylums for the insane and other institutions, and as to the "efficiency and fitness of the Commissioner in Lunacy," appropriated $3,000 for the purpose, and calls for a report in one year. Mr. Mitchell introduced the Sandy Hook and Hell Gate Pilotage bills, already introduced in the Senate. Mr. Alvord introduced a voluminous Assessment bill, to the preparation of which he says he has devoted much time and care. The bill contains this provision:

"If any real estate in the possession or ownership of any person liable to assessment and taxation is incumbered by any lien by way of mortgage or contract to purchase, the party in possession or ownership of the same shall pay the full tax imposed upon it, and upon giving to the Assessor the shall assess the same a true account of the incumbrance thereon by way of unpaid purchase money or mortgage, such possessor or owner may pay the tax imposed thereon; but he shall, upon demand, receive a receipt for so much of the tax paid upon such property as fairly and equitably represented by the interest of the vendor under contract or the mortgagor of such property, which receipts, in the hands of such purchaser or mortgagor, shall apply upon and be a payment of the amount due by him on his contract for the purchase or mortgage upon said real estate wherever and as often as the amount due on either may be payable, except that in case said purchaser or mortgagor shall by writing in the contract for sale and purchase, or in the mortgage, or in any other sale of estate, stipulate and agree to pay the taxes on the same, he shall pay such tax in addition to the price agreed upon on such sale or purchase, or to the value of such mortgage lien, and the lawful interest, or either, and no claim for usury shall attach thereto; and the payment of such tax without the stipulation or agreement to pay such tax shall deprive him of the right to offset such indebtedness against his liability to be assessed or pay his tax on any personal property owned by him or in his possession."

The bill also provides for the listing system for assessment, and also for assessing the personal property of railroad companies in the localities where their chief offices are.

Dr. Hayes introduced his bill in relation to West-street improvements, a measure which was vigorously opposed in the Cities Committee last Winter. The street-cleaning bills introduced by Mr. Mitchell and Mr. Varnum were reported from the Cities Committee for the consideration of the House.

Mr. Duell, who is determined that the much-abused power to confer favor upon favored grantees by appointing them to fat Bebetweerships and Referees' places shall be ventilated, called up his resolution asking for information of the County Clerk of New-York as to their appointment and the amount of compensation received by them, and it was adopted. Mr. Grady, who a day or two ago prompted a member to object to the passage of the resolution, was in the chamber, and made no one effort to stop the resolution, but without success.

The Five-cent Fare bills were before the Railroad Committee of the Assembly this afternoon. Mr. Terpeny advocated the passage of the Reduction bill offered by him, and Mr. Grosse made an extended argument in favor of his bill. The companies, he said, had obtained a great franchise, for which they had paid nothing, and it was plain that they could afford to carry passengers at a lower rate. No representative of the elevated roads appeared in opposition. The hearing was adjourned for a week, Judge John K. Porter requesting to be heard. Opportunity is to be given to representatives of the New-York and Metropolitan Elevated Railroads to be heard.

APPOINTED TO STATE OFFICES.

QUARANTINE AND IMMIGRATION COMMISSIONERS AND OTHER OFFICERS NOMINATED YESTERDAY.

ALBANY, Jan. 28.—The Senate proceedings to-day, outside of the executive session, were unimportant. Mr. Seebacher introduced a bill which he says is designed to protect the public against irresponsible auctioneers. It increases the license fees of auctioneers to $500, requires them to give bonds in $10,000, and confers the power of granting licenses on the Controller. Mr. Astor's bill making it a felony to mingle trust funds with the private funds of persons acting in a fiduciary capacity, was ordered to a third reading.

In executive session the following nominations to office were announced, all of which were referred to their appropriate committees without debate:

For Quarantine Commissioner—Thomas G. Piatt, of Orange, in place of James McQuade, whose term has expired.

For Canal Appraisers—William L. Bostwick, of Ithaca, and George T. Morgan, of Buffalo.

For Commissioner of Emigration—Charles N. Bulett and Edmund Stephenson, of New-York, in place of John D. Lawson and Joel W. Mason deceased.

For Special Pilot-warden—John Waters, of Staten Island, in place of John E. Colville.

The appointment of Thomas C. Piatt to the small office of Quarantine Commissioner is a surprise here, in view of the fact that he was offered the best political position in the State—that of Commissioner of Public Works—and declined to take it. It is said, in explanation, that his important position in one of the large express companies requires his residence in New-York, and that the office of Quarantine Commissioner will not interfere with his mining and other interests. The term of James McQuade, whom Mr. Piatt succeeds, expired a year ago, but he has held over because of the refusal of the last Senate to confirm his reappointment.

William L. Bostwick, one of the new Canal Appraisers, is an ex-Assemblyman, who is engaged in the manufacturing business. He was nominated on the Republican State ticket for Treasurer three years ago, and is one of the Regents of the University.

George T. Morgan, the other appraiser on the Canal Appraisers, is an attaché of the Buffalo *Commercial Advertiser*, and was strongly urged by the Republicans of Erie County for Commissioner of Public Works. There are three Canal Appraisers, whose salaries are $5,000 each. The term of the third man does not expire until Feb. 15.

The new appointee for Special Port Warden has been for several years past the keeper of Hoffman Island in the Lower Quarantine ground. He takes the place of John E. Colville, who has been the keeper of the Quarantine Hospital on Swinburne Island, but who will have to vacate the position as soon as a new Health Officer is appointed.

It is expected that a Canal Auditor in place of Schuyler will be among the next nominations of the Governor. Bostwick, who was one of the candidates for the position, having accepted an Appraisership, the appointment is now supposed to rest between ex-Congressman Smart, of Washington County, and H. A. Glidden, the defeated candidate for Clerk of the Senate. It is now conceded on all hands that ex-Assemblyman Hepburn, of Fort Lawrence, will get the appointment for Superintendent of Banks in place of Acting Superintendent Lamb.

OPPOSING PILOTS' EXACTIONS.

ARGUMENTS OF THE MERCHANTS AGAINST THE PRESENT SYSTEM.

ALBANY, Jan. 28.—The battle between the New-York shipping merchants and pilots commenced this afternoon, before the Joint Committees on Commerce and Navigation. The merchants were represented by W. W. Goodrich, their counsel; by J. O. Ward, Chairman of the Chamber of Commerce; J. H. Boynton, of the Produce Exchange; J. W. Parker, of the Ship-owners' Association; J. H. Van Brunt, of the Vessel-owners' and Captains' Association; J. E. Miller, of the Maritime Association; Charles Watrous, of the Board of Trade, and Mr. Hand, a practical ship-builder. The pilots were represented by Henry Harbison, who requested that their side should be heard at a future day, as their counsel, W. A. Butler, was unable to be present to-day.

Mr. Ward opened the argument, and merely expressed the opinion of the Chamber of Commerce, that a reform was needed in the Pilot laws, and hoped that a special committee might be appointed to go to New-York and investigate the facts, preparatory to Legislative action. It was agreed on all sides, he said, that there should be a reduction in the rates of pilotage, and the only question was how large a reduction ought to be made. With regard to Hell Gate pilotage, it ought in his opinion, to be abolished altogether. It was useless, and, to use a common phrase, was a fraud. J. H. Boynton, on behalf of the Produce Exchange, agreed with Mr. Ward as to the necessity of a reduction in the rates of pilotage, but did not specify how much it ought to be.

J. M. Parker said that the pilotage at the Port of New-York was excessive and larger than at any other leading port in the world, while it was among the least difficult ports to enter. He agreed in the recommendation of a special committee to investigate the subject. The pay of the New-York pilots, he said, under the present rates, averaged more than $4,000 a year for each man, while the pay of ship-masters, who navigated the whole voyage, only averaged from $60 to $100 a month. For the amount of service rendered, the New-York pilots were the best-paid men he knew of.

J. H. Van Brunt, from the Captains' Association, insisted specially upon the abolition of compulsory pilotage everywhere, and the doing away with Hell Gate pilotage altogether. He said more money was paid to the Hell Gate pilots, who rendered no service at all, than was realized by the owners of the vessels passing through the East River.

Ernest Miller, of the Maritime Association, made the leading argument of the evening, which was a very able and conclusive presentation of the case for the merchants. In answer to the pregnant charge that it was the foreign shippers only who were opposing the present pilot system, he said that all the gentlemen appearing before the committee to-day were American ship-owners. What they demanded was, first, a reduction of the present rates 33 1-3 per cent, as they existed before the war, and, second, the total abolition of compulsory pilotage. From 1845 to 1853, there was no such thing as compulsory pilotage at the port of New-York, and yet there were plenty of pilots and the service was just as good as it is now. If the pilots could live then, when the tonnage entering the port was less than a third what it is now, it was folly to say that the abolition of compulsory pilotage would destroy the pilot system. In 1853, the pilots had a law passed through the Legislature establishing compulsory pilotage. This law was protested against by all the leading merchants, headed by Walter R. Jones. Since that time the pilot system of New-York had been a close corporation and a monopoly. In 1863 the merchants, at the earnest solicitation of the pilots, consented to the passage of a law increasing the rates 33 1-3 per cent, with the distinct understanding that it should be restored to the old figure just as soon as the inflated war prices then existing were over. He gave illustrations of the operation of compulsory pilotage. Mr. Ward, who was present, was compelled to pay pilotage on one of his steamers running to Havana at the rate of $2,872 for 108 hours service, while the pay of the Captain of the steamer for 365 days' service was only $2,400, and yet his Captain never employed pilots, as the company had more confidence in the piloting skill of their own Captains than they had in any chance pilot that the steamer might pick up. Another illustration of the absurdity and injustice of compulsory pilotage was given in the case of two steamers, lying on either side of a wharf, one loaded with passengers bound for New-Orleans, and the other about to start on a three-days' voyage to Bermuda for a load of potatoes. They both pass through the same waters and have equal need of a pilot, and yet the steamer, freighted with passengers, was exempt from pilot charge because she was bound for an American port, while the Bermuda steamer was compelled to pay pilotage in and out with her load of potatoes. As to Hell Gate pilotage, it was, as had been well said, "a fraud." There was now absolutely no necessity for it. Nearly all the sailing craft that now pass through Hell Gate were towed by tugs, which cost them about $5 each, while they were obliged to pay in addition from $7 to $9 each for a pilot whom they never took, and of whom they had no earthly need.

Mr. Watrous of the Board of Trade, spoke in a similar strain, and ridiculed the pretense that the pilot service was dangerous. He said it was not nearly as dangerous as the service rendered by the masters of vessels, who had to run the risks of the entire voyage added to the risks from climatic diseases in foreign ports, and yet, for a service of two to four hours, the New-York pilot got more pay than the Captain of the vessel for the entire voyage.

Mr. Hand, a practical mechanic, closed the argument, and kept the committee and the large audience in attendance in roars of laughter by his quaint anecdotes illustrating the absurdity and injustice of the New-York pilotage system. At the close of the hearing, Mr. Dearnsport, Chairman of the committee, announced that arguments in behalf of the pilots would be heard next week Wednesday, at 4 o'clock.

THE WEATHER INDICATIONS.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 29—1 A. M.—For New-England, colder and clear or fair weather, rising barometer, and northerly to westerly winds.

For the Middle States, colder, and clear or partly cloudy weather, north-west to north-east winds, and rising barometer.

For the south Atlantic States, a slight fall in temperature, and clear or partly cloudy weather, with rising barometer, and northerly to easterly winds.

For the Gulf States, and the Ohio Valley, colder northerly to easterly winds, rising barometer and clear or partly cloudy weather, with local rains in the West Gulf States, followed during Thursday night or Friday morning in the Western portion by falling barometer, cast to south winds, and slowly rising temperature.

For the lake region, colder and partly cloudy weather, north-west winds shifting to north and east, rising barometer, followed in the western portion by falling barometer.

For the Upper Mississippi and Lower Missouri Valleys, decidedly colder southerly winds, shifting to east and south, partly cloudy weather, and a slight rise followed by falling barometer.

For the Pacific coast regions, clear or partly cloudy weather, except in Oregon, light rain.

For the Canal regions of the Middle States, the temperature will fall decidedly.

The Lower Mississippi and Lower Ohio Rivers will fall slowly.

Cautionary off-shore signals continue at Indianola and Galveston.

IN THIS CITY.

The following record shows the changes in the temperature for the past 24 hours, in comparison with the corresponding date of last year, as indicated by the thermometer at Hudnut's pharmacy:

	1879.	1880.		1879.	1880.
1 A. M.	[illegible]	[illegible]	3:00 P. M.	[illegible]	[illegible]
3 A. M.	[illegible]	[illegible]	6 P. M.	[illegible]	[illegible]
6 A. M.	[illegible]	[illegible]	9 P. M.	[illegible]	[illegible]
9 A. M.	[illegible]	[illegible]	12 P. M.	[illegible]	[illegible]
12 M.	[illegible]	[illegible]			
Average temperature yesterday				[illegible]	
Average temperature for corresponding date last year					[illegible]

ANNIE DOWNEY'S MURDER

TWO MORE ARRESTS, BUT ONE OF THE MEN DISCHARGED.

NEW LINKS IN CAPT. M'DONNELL'S CHAIN—STRONG EVIDENCE, HOWEVER, IN FAVOR OF THE MAN TIM—WHAT HIS WIFE AND EMPLOYER SAY.

Two more men were arrested yesterday by the Police in connection with the mysterious murder of the girl Annie Downey in the house at No. 111 Prince-street. One of the prisoners was a brother-in-law of Edward Tim, Charles Schortan by name, who confessed to several burglaries in Greene and Mercer streets. He is still locked up in the Prince-Street Station-house. The other prisoner was Michael Rogers, a frowzy-headed, uncouth fellow, of about 25 years, who lives at No. 160 West Sixty-sixth-street. Rogers's arrest was due to a story told Capt. McDonnell by Kitty Clarke, an inmate of a house in Wooster-street. Rogers has until within three weeks been employed by an oyster monger, who has a large number of customers in the Eighth Ward. The Clarke girl told the Captain that Rogers came into the house in Wooster-street a few weeks ago, and asked if anybody knew where Annie was. He put his hand into his pocket as he asked the question, and, pulling out a pistol, said: "I'll give her the contents of this when I see her." The murder of Annie Downey a few days afterward suggested this incident, and believing that Rogers had reference to Annie Downey, the Clarke girl visited the Captain with the story. For more than a week the search for Rogers was unsuccessful. Inspector Dilks finally went over the record of licensed vendors, which is kept at the City Hall, and found the name of the oyster monger. Several days were required to find him, and when he was discovered it was learned that he had discharged Rogers about 10 days before the murder of the Downey girl. He was able, however, to give information sufficient to lead the Inspector to the neighborhood in which Rogers lived, and yesterday morning the Inspector arrested Rogers at his house. Rogers had shaved his mustache since his discharge, and Capt. McDonnell, taking him into his private office, furnished him with a piece of burned cork, and ordered him to decorate his upper lip. He objected at first, but finally yielded, and outlined a mustache that could not have been surpassed by an artist. Then he was handcuffed to Detective Hogan and taken to No. 111 Prince-street to be identified by Mrs. Schmidt and Rebecca Fredericks. As he stepped out of the station-house he contemptuously remarked to the Captain, "You can't frighten me for a cent." It was thought that Rogers was the stout-built man, with a brown overcoat and flat-topped, stiff-brimmed hat, who was heard to ask Annie if she had a pistol when he visited her on the afternoon before her death, and who, Annie told the inmates, was to spend that night in the house. When confronted with Mrs. Schmidt and Rebecca, they said they did not remember ever having seen him before. Rogers said he never knew a Girl named Annie Downey. Her picture was shown him, and he said he had never seen the original. He stoutly declared that he had never been in the house No. 111 Prince-street in his life. He was taken back to the station-house, and Coroner Knox formally discharged him from custody. He lost no time in leaving the station-house when informed that he was at liberty. The prisoner Schortan was not so fortunate, what his connection is with this case, the Captain declines to state. He intimated that a charge of burglary would be made against him if there was a likelihood of his escaping on the other charge.

The prisoner, Edward Tim, who was arrested on Tuesday, is still confined in a cell in the Prince-Street Station. The Captain was more confident than ever after Rogers's discharge that Tim is Annie Downey's murderer. "I don't think I need look any further, do you?" he asked Inspector Dilks. The Inspector replied that there was certainly the very strongest proof against the man. "He has already stopped eating," added the Captain, and he called up Doorman Burke to corroborate this statement. Burke said that Tim had refused to eat since Tuesday noon, every meal that was placed before him remained untouched, and he repeatedly made the remark, "I won't eat a mouthful while I am locked up here." When Sergeant Riley took some food down to him, yesterday noon, however, he relented and ate a few mouthfuls. "He is very nervous and asks me a good many questions," concluded Burke, with a grave shake of the head that betokened a firm belief that this fact was corroborative evidence of Tim's guilt. Tim's wife came to the station-house in the afternoon and asked to see him. Her request was not granted. She was, however, given the papers and memorandum-book found on him when arrested, and also $3 of his money. She was accompanied by her sister, and together they visited Mrs. Schmidt to obtain a view of Annie Downey's picture, one of which, they had read in a morning paper, was in her possession. When Mrs. Schmidt learned who they were she said to Mrs. Tim: "Too bad. But if your husband killed Annie, it is better for you that he should be got rid of." This was encouraging. Mrs. Schmidt told her that the Captain had the only picture of Annie that they knew anything about. Both she and Rebecca described minutely the way in which Tim entered and left the house the evening before Annie's murder. "He stood on the other side of the street 10 minutes before he came over to see Annie," said Rebecca. Mrs. Schmidt echoed the statement. Mrs. Tim left them only half satisfied with the result of her visit.

After a long search Mrs. Tim was found at her mother's residence. She is very small of stature, with dark hair, dark eyes, and girlish features. She was married three years ago, when she was but 17 years old. She answered readily the questions which the TIMES reporter asked her.

"Certainly, I will tell you all I know about my husband," said she. "We had a quarrel a year ago this Winter about a girl with whom he persisted in keeping company. He got acquainted with her in a house in Wooster-street, near Houston. I was jealous, of course, and when I charged him with unfaithfulness to me, then he beat me. She was a brazen-faced girl. I don't think that she was the Annie Downey whom Eddy is charged with killing."

"Can you describe her?"

"She was very short and very slender, and had dark hair and a very dark complexion. That is all that I can remember. I wanted to see Annie Downey's picture to learn whether they were the same persons. This girl's name was not Annie."

Annie Downey was of slender figure, but above medium height. She was well proportioned. Her complexion was not noticeably dark, and her hair was brown.

"Do you remember where your husband was on Friday, the 16th inst.?"

"Yes; he was in the habit of working overtime, and I am almost sure he worked late that night. When he came home—we kept house in Houston-street, at the corner of Crosby-street—he had his supper and then went to Charles Piratsky's shoe-shop, No. 196 Thompson-street, to play cards with some young friends. He told me to meet him there later in the evening. I visited Mrs. Buttnac, at No. 133 Thompson-street, and spent the evening there, while Eddy was playing cards in Piratsky's. Shortly after 10 o'clock we started to come home together. I remember that it was 10:40 o'clock by the clock on Henry Hills. We went into the house together and went to bed, and Eddy did not go out of the house again that night."

"How do you fix the day so exactly?"

"Because the next night—Saturday—Eddy came home with his full week's wages, and we went together to a ball in the Harmony Assembly Rooms, in Essex-street. We staid there dancing until 5:30 o'clock Sunday morning. As we were coming home he bought a paper, and when we got into the house he laid down on the bed to read. He saw the story of Annie Downey's murder and commenced to read it aloud. He said that it was very queer that a girl should commit suicide, as the article suggested. He fell asleep before he finished reading the article. I don't think Eddy had anything more to do with the murder than I had. Eddy has treated me nicely since our quarrel a year ago, and we got along fairly together."

Two men of Piratsky, Charles and Robert, say that they have an indistinct recollection of Tim's being at their house on the night of the 16th inst. Tim had been expected as a matter for nearly four years in the pocket-book manufacturing of Weil, Livingston & Co., at No. 323 Broadway, but Mr. Weil yesterday afternoon said: "Tim is one of our best workmen. He is a steady, reliable fellow, and I don't believe a word about his connection with this affair."

"Do you know whether he was at work on Friday, the 16th inst.?"

Mr. Weil brought the time-book kept by the foreman of the cutters' department. It showed clearly that Tim worked over time that day, and did not finish his labors until 8 o'clock in the evening. "We had a great deal of over-work done about that time," explained Mr. Weil, "and Tim was always ready to take his share of it." The book showed that on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday of that week Tim worked until 8 o'clock every night.

"Could he have gone out of the shop for an hour or more on that Friday afternoon without his absence being noted by the foreman and an entry made in the book?"

"Impossible. A deduction would have been made in his wages had he absented himself for any length. See, our cash-book shows that he received his wages in full that week."

Capt. McDonnell relies mainly upon the evidence of Mrs. Schmidt and Rebecca Fredericks to convict Tim. Both women have identified him positively as the man who called to see Annie Downey about 4 o'clock on the afternoon of the 16th inst., and remained in the house an hour or more. Both women appear to be brimful of information on the subject of this visit, and every day they add something more to the statement of the previous day. The latest addition to their testimony is the statement that they heard Annie say as she accompanied her visitor to the door, "Good bye, Eddy." Another link in Capt. McDonnell's chain was furnished by Mrs. Angle, of West Twenty-seventh-street. Tim, the Captain says, was placed among six policemen yesterday afternoon, and Mrs. Angle recognized his face as one that she had seen before somewhere. She believed he had been in her house. A watch-chain with a miniature anchor attached dangled from Tim's pocket. Mrs. Angle was positive that she identified that. Mrs. Angle was barboring Annie Downey when a young man visited her house one night and quarreled with the girl. He swore, on leaving, that he would get even with her. It remains to be proved that he and Tim are identical. Other links in the Captain's chain are several episodes in Tim's career. Tim admits having thrashed the lover of a girl who made her home at No. 111 Prince-street. He denies that this girl was Annie Downey. However, if Tim believed had anything to do with it. Tim's first statement that he was never in No. 111 Prince-street in his life, and his subsequent statement that he visited it six months ago are considered criminating points, which are to be used against him. Capt. McDonnell's attention was called to the statements made by Tim's employers and to his wife's story. "He will have to prove his innocence on his trial," said the Captain. "I think we can connect him with this case so that the Coroner will be obliged to commit him for the action of the Grand Jury, at all events."

Late last night Capt McDonnell returned from a visit to Mrs. Angle's, made for the purpose of obtaining some information concerning a seal ring which he had secured, and which he believed belonged to Annie Downey. Mrs. Angle presented such a ring to the girl. On examining the ring which the Captain submitted to her, she said she thought she recognized its setting, but was positive she had never seen the stone. "Had she identified this ring," said the Captain, "the case against Tim would have been a clear one." He was disappointed.

The inquest, which Coroner Knox will continue at 11 o'clock to-day, promises to be of considerable length, as subpœnas have been made out for more than 40 witnesses.

NOTES FROM WASHINGTON.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28, 1880.

The receipts from internal revenue today were $377,335 91, and from Customs, $812,849 08.

The Executive Committees of the United States Agricultural Society and of the American Agricultural Association began business here to-day. John Merryman, of Maryland, is the President of both organizations.

The House Committee on Railways and Canals this morning adopted the report of the sub-committee in favor of the bill "To aid in the construction of a railroad from San Antonio, Texas, to Laredo, on the Rio Grande." The bill was favorably reported to the House and recommitted for further consideration.

The Committee on Banking and Currency continued to-day the investigation into the Receivership of the Ocean National Bank of New-York. The session of the committee to-day was almost wholly occupied in examining the Receiver, Mr. Davis, who related at some length the history of the various financial transactions with which he had been connected while Receiver for the bank.

The sub-committee of the House Committee on Agriculture reported to the full committee to-day the draft of a substitute for Representative Muldrow's bill making the Commissioner of Agriculture a Cabinet officer. The substitute provides for a Secretary of Agriculture, and enlarges the scope and functions of the department so as to include a Bureau of Forestry and the investigation of matters pertaining to the diseases of cattle.

The Secretary of the Treasury to-day received in an envelope, postmarked New-York, two mutilated United States notes of $20 each, together with the following statement: "Mrs. Brown desires to cancel her obligation to the Government by returning to the Treasurer the inclosed canceled securities." The notes will be redeemed by the Treasurer, and the amount of $40 deposited in the Treasury on account of the conscience fund.

The Senate Committee on Appropriations, at a special meeting this afternoon, reconsidered their former action in regard to the Fortifications Appropriation bill, and finally decided to report the bill back to the Senate to-morrow, with a recommendation that the amount granted by the House for the armament of sea-coast fortifications, namely, $225,000, be increased to $400,000. The committee will also recommend an increase of $50,000 in the House item of $100,000 for the preservation and repair of fortifications. The terms of the provision for the armament of fortifications are amended by the Senate committee so as to include not only the conversion of smooth-bores into rifled ordnance, but also specifically the manufacture of "four improved breech-loading rifled guns of 12-inch calibre."

The Secretary of the Interior to-day decided the case of the State of California against the Bodie and Mono Mining Companies, on appeal from the decision of the Commissioner of the General Land Office, which rejected the Glover survey of that portion of the Bodie Township (in Mono County, Cal.) that includes the mines now operated by these companies. Secretary Schurz dismisses the objections to the method of executing the Glover survey as "technical," and holds that it is "substantially correct." He also decides that there was sufficient authority of law for it to be made, and he therefore reverses the Commissioner's decision, and directs the Glover survey to be "returned to its proper file in the General Land Office and in the local Land Office of the district in which the township is situated."

LOSSES BY FIRE.

A large saw and grist mill at Second Falls, New-Brunswick, owned by the Gilmore Brothers, was burned yesterday morning. The loss is heavy. The fire was the work of an incendiary.

ACCIDENTS TO VESSELS.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The National Line steamer Holland, Capt. Cochrane, hence Jan. 21, for New-York, has returned to Queenstown, having broken her main shaft when 500 miles west of the Fastnet.

The British bark Anzalo, Capt. Vidal, from New-York, last reported as sailing from Queenstown Jan. 15, for Gloucester, is ashore near Sharpness.

The Loretta Stewart's 3d-boom, rigging, and foretopgallant-mast have been damaged in a collision. The British bark Loretta Stewart, Capt. Upham, was last reported as sailing from Boston Jan. 5, for Baltimore.

FORTRESS MONROE, Jan. 28.—A schooner, reported as the Georgia Alry, is ashore 40 miles up the James River.

THE HUDSON RIVER OPENING.

POUGHKEEPSIE, N. Y., Jan. 28.—Reports from above say that all of the ice in the river is on the move. A steamer and two barges passed north this afternoon, and a sloop passed south.

ALBANY, Jan. 28.—There is a slight freshet in the river, and the ice has moved from in front of the city. Navigation is open as far down as Coeymans, and boats will run from that point to-morrow.

HARRISON'S TAX-PAYERS COMPLAIN.

Seventy-six tax-payers of Harrison, N. J., went before a Supreme Court Judge yesterday and asked that the assessor of the town be ordered to appear and show why he should not be compelled to assess the property in the town's manner.

TRAGEDIES OF HUMAN LIFE

MYSTERIOUS CRIMES IN GREAT BRITAIN.

PREVALENCE OF UNREVEALED ATROCITIES—RECENT CASES OF MURDER—A DISMAL RECORD IN ENGLAND AND IRELAND.

LONDON, Jan. 16.—Only recently a Coroner publicly declared that child-murder is a common crime in England, that scores of babies are put out of the way without inquiry, that "overlying infants in bed" is frequently murder, that many children are starved to death, and many more fatally dosed by so-called "nostrums" for infantile complaints. Before this officer of the Crown made that statement we had already had some terrible examples of the horrors of baby-farming, and soon afterward there was brought to light one of the most painful revelations in the history of crime. A husband and wife, comparatively young in years, kept a children's home. They were in the habit of deliberately and slowly murdering their little charges by starvation. There was reason to suspect that in some cases they thus tortured infants to death for "a consideration." Eventually the gallows was fed with the carcases of these two professional murderers, but the Queen's officer previously quoted still insists that there are scores of undiscovered child-murders, and therefore we have in our midst scores of undiscovered murderers. In London, I can myself recall, within the last dozen years, half a dozen notorious tragedies which still remain dark mysteries, and in which the chief actors, cruel and deliberate assassins, are at large. It is in evidence that malefactors sometimes suffer mental tortures. Recently a murderer came back to the suburbs of the metropolis, and give himself up for a crime he had committed 20 years ago. He had been all over the world during that time, but could rest nowhere. A few months ago he was tried, found guilty, and sentenced to be hanged, but mercifully reprieved, that he might be sent into penal servitude for life. Every now and then some poor mutilated body is found in a cellar, or floating about rivers in pieces, and there the ghastly business stops. The Euston-square murder has to be added to the list of undiscovered crimes, though, on the other hand, we did succeed in bringing home to Kate Webster the awful murder of her mistress, whom she assassinated, boiled, cut up, and distributed piece-meal in the Thames and in many miles of Surrey. Staffordshire Coroner has publicly declared within the past two months that he believes many persons who are supposed to have emigrated to other countries are lying murdered at the bottoms of unused coal-pits. It is possible that this may be an exaggeration, though no man in England has such opportunities of becoming acquainted with crimes against the person as a Coroner. A medical expert told me recently that deaths by poison are commoner than we think. Scores of cases where there is reason for suspicion are passed over because medical men and nurses are afraid of making charges they may be unable to fully substantiate. Certificates of death are often given carelessly by general-rate practitioners.

Among the crimes of the hour are several that challenge the "Newgate Calendar" for depravity, cruelty, and bloodthirstiness. At Glasgow a blind husband suspected his wife of infidelity. In the agony of his soul, when confessing his belief to the wretched partner of his life, he expressed a wish that he was dead. She was heard coolly to answer that he might possibly have his wish realized sooner than he expected. Not long afterward he was found dying on the pavement opposite his own house, having fallen, as is suggested, from a three-story window. The evidence, however, goes strongly in support of the charge that the wife and her paramour killed him and flung him into the street. A jury has yet to clear up the facts and pronounce upon them. Paragraphs appear almost daily in the country journals referring to what is called "The Manchester Murder:" another modern mystery. The facts may be briefly narrated: Last week, one evening, a gentleman residing in a Manchester suburban villa received a note inviting an appointment at once at an adjacent inn regarding the sale of some land he was interested in. The letter turned out to be a hoax; but the moment the master had gone his wife heard the door-bell ring and the servant answer it. Some one entered the house and went down stairs with the girl into the kitchen, a circumstance in no way unusual. Shortly afterward she heard a terrible scream; she gave an alarm, a neighbor came in, and they found the girl dying from the effects of a frightful gash in the head. The victim never spoke, and at present no clue to the murderer has been obtained. The theory is that jealousy is at the bottom of the crime; and while I write I see a news dispatch intimating that a young man has unaccountably disappeared from the neighborhood, and that the Police think it desirable to look after him. A week ago London was horrified by the announcement of the discovery of the body of a man floating in the Brent River, near Hardon. The lower part of the abdomen had been cut away and nowhere else. On a thorough investigation it turned out to be a case of suicide of the most strange and revolting character. The body was that of an old man named Sibley. He had himself cut away the abdomen, which was found, with his hat and a knife, under a hedge; and, after suffering this mutilation, he had flung himself into the river. At Croydon, near London, a few days since, Lawrence Bovill shot at his partner, whom he missed, but, thinking him dead, rushed into the presence of his sister, and putting a pistol into his mouth, blew his own brains out. At the inquest, a half-written note was found in the suicide's pocket containing the words and words: "This is all thanks to good a friend to him. I took him home with me, and treated him like a brother, and he rounded on me like a dog or a rat." Among the social mysteries of the day is what is called "The Worcestershire Case," in which James Lewis Paine, a gentleman, and Fanny Matthews, a domestic servant, are charged with the willful murder of a lady of means and position belonging to the County of Worcester. She was addicted to drink. Paine became acquainted with her. He deserted his own wife and went to live with the rich woman. He insured her life, got control of her property, induced her to go to London, and there with the aid of Fanny Matthews, at a lodging-house or "coffee shop," deliberately kept food from her and plied her with ardent spirits until she died. So, we all events, runs the charge against him and his accomplice. The case will be tried at the Central Criminal Sessions. One day last week a foreigner named Sohon went into the Italian Church in Hatton Garden and tried to shoot the officiating priests, who fled before a shower of bullets from his revolver and fastened themselves in a room. He tore the altar down and set fire to it. He is a Socialist, and probably a maniac.

In one day last week four women were murdered in Ireland. Capt. Brabazon, of Dublin, engaged a cook to take the place of Margaret Skeam, who had not given him satisfaction. Mornington House was the name of the Captain's home. A few days after the new cook went to her place Margaret Skeam visited Mornington House and returned home greatly excited and smeared with blood. Suspicion was aroused, and in the Kitchen at Mornington House the floor was found to be bloody and the new cook gone. Search was made, and her body was found in a well, stabbed and gashed all over, a hideous spectacle. Skeam is under arrest, and nobody doubts her guilt. On the same day a woman was killed in the North of Ireland and plundered of a small sum of money, and at about the same time a frightful tragedy was done upon an old woman named McCormick and her imbecile daughter. They were found by the neighbors, the old woman lying dead on the floor, the daughter lying on a sofa, still breathing, in spite of a broken skull, a shattered arm, and other injuries. The mother was similarly cut and bruised. At first, the Police thought the old woman had been killed by the daughter for the sake of money; but at the inquest this notion was mooted. The mother was a strong, hale, hearty woman, and the daughter, in her dying moments, charged a returned "Irish-American" of the neighborhood with the crime. This man is in the hands of the Police. In his house were found a spade and two sheets stained with blood, beyond which and the girl's dying deposition there is no other evidence against him. The condition of Ireland is just now such as to favor the commission of violent crimes, but the Government is using both firmness and generosity in dealing with the situation, which has been aggravated by Fenian and other agitators.

A FATAL DOSE OF CHLORAL.

Late last night the Police of the Twenty-second Precinct reported to Inspector Murray that Caroline Meshold, aged 29, wife of Frederick Meshold, druggist, of No. 730 Eleventh-avenue, had died suddenly from an overdose of chloral, at No. 150 West Fifty-second-street, where she had gone to visit a friend. Dr. Jacobus, of No. 202 West Fifty-third-street, Dr. B. Thompson, of No. 251 West Fifty-second-street, and Dr. Fanshright, of No. 256 West Fifty-fourth-street, with the Surgeons of St. Luke's Hospital, all came there and tried to arrest the effect of the drug, but the lady died at 5:20 o'clock. It is not believed that Mrs. Meshold took the poison with suicidal intent.

THE ANTIQUARY'S GHOST STORY.

WHAT SCIENTIFIC PERSONS SAY OF DR. JESSOPP'S MIDNIGHT VISITOR.

The London *Athenæum* of Jan. 17 says it has been overwhelmed with letters regarding Dr. Jessopp's narrative. Several correspondents are anxious to know whether the ghost set on a real basis, whether there is any tradition of a ghost at Mannington Hall, &c. In private the two letters which offer the most plausible explanation.

Dr. Wilks F. R. S., of Guy's Hospital, writes:

"Putting aside the supposition of a trick, the story resolves itself into the question whether the appearance of the man beside him (Dr. Jessopp) was objective or subjective. Under ordinary circumstances when we see an object the latter is material, and forms an image on the retina; this is mentally known through a complex process of the brain. The mere retinal image is not enough to constitute v

THE CASE OF MR. NICHOLS

WAITING PATIENTLY FOR JUDGE LAWRENCE'S DECISION.

THE EX-COMMISSIONER READY TO GO BACK TO THE POLICE BOARD—WHAT HIS COUNSEL AND FRIENDS SAY—MR. MACLEAN'S PROBABLE ACTION.

The decision of the Court of Appeals regarding the writ of prohibition in ex-Police Commissioner Nichols's case, and defining the duties of the Mayor as a judicial officer, was the leading topic in local political circles yesterday. By Tammany men the decision was generally regarded as a damaging blow at Mayor Cooper. In Anti-Tammany circles the decision, while not regarded as finally disposing of the question at issue, was admitted to be adverse to the party's interests. Republicans seemed generally satisfied with the quarrel, as tending to widen the breach between the two wings of the Democracy, and further assure Republican success in the City and State elections next Fall.

Mr. John D. Townsend, Mr. Nichols's counsel in the present litigation, stated the exact legal aspect of his client's case, as follows: "On the argument for a writ of prohibition on the part of the Mayor, it was argued not only that Judge Westbrook should be prohibited because he was hearing an application for a writ at a Special Term of Chambers, but that the prohibition should stand since he had no right originally to issue the writ of certiorari to the Mayor, because such a writ, if issued at all to the Mayor, should include the Governor as well. The opinion of the extraordinary General Term did not set forth the grounds on which the writ was granted. On the appeal to the Court of Appeals, the counsel for the Mayor fully argued these same grounds as being those upon which he asked to have the writ of prohibition sustained. Hence, the Court of Appeals had fully before it the question as to whether the writ of certiorari was the proper remedy in such a case, and the court determined that it was. In connection therewith, it also determined that the Mayor, in making such removals, acted as a judicial officer, and the court cited authorities showing that as a judicial officer he was obliged, when acting in such capacity, to give a public officer whom he proposed to remove 'an opportunity to be heard,' and that to constitute a hearing he should furnish the accused officer with specifications of the charges, allow him counsel, and an opportunity to produce witnesses and examine them. The court, it is true, did not pass upon the question of this particular case, but left it to the court below to determine whether in Mr. Nichols's alleged 'hearing' before Mayor Cooper last Spring the Mayor did allow him counsel, did furnish him with the required specifications, and did permit him to examine witnesses, as the Court of Appeals says he should have done. As it is notorious that his Honor the Mayor did none of these things, and he, moreover, the Mayor's own official return shows that he did not do them, we regard the decision as virtually settling that the Commissioner was never legally removed, and that the Mayor's appointment of another person in his place is illegal, and therefore null and void."

As soon as Judge Lawrence renders his decision on the return to the writ of certiorari, (which is confidently expected to be in the ex-Commissioner's favor,) Mr. Nichols will go to Police Head-quarters and demand of Mr. MacLean the keys to his office. If MacLean refuses to hand them over, Mr. Nichols will apply to the two Republican Commissioners for recognition, and, on being received by them as the lawful Commissioner, will resume his old powers and duties immediately. The concurrence of the other Anti-Tammany Commissioner, Mr. Voorhis, will be unnecessary, as three of the Commissioners form a quorum and have full power to act in all cases coming before them. There are some persons who thought that such a programme could be carried out yesterday without waiting for Judge Lawrence's decision, but Mr. Nichols's friends say they do not care to precipitate matters, and are content to wait for the further and more explicit decision which Judge Lawrence is expected to render.

There was talk among the Anti-Tammanyites about Commissioner MacLean's applying for a stay of proceedings, and having the matter first carried back to the General Term, and then a second time to the Court of Appeals; but this was thought to be doubtful, as at most it would only prolong the controversy a few weeks, while being sure to end in Mr. MacLean's discomfiture. No Judge, it is said, would care to interfere in the face of the explicit language of the Court of Appeals, and with the certainty that a second carrying of the case to Albany would result in a reaffirmance of the original decision. Among lawyers the blame for the Mayor's failure is generally attributed to Corporation Counsel Whitney's opinion delivered at the original hearing when the Mayor refused to listen to the counsel of the accused Commissioner, or to allow them to produce witnesses in their defense. They say that if Mayor Cooper and Mr. Whitney had not been in such a hurry to choke off Lawyer Bartlett and the other counsel, and had waited and listened, and allowed them to call witnesses, they might have accomplished the removal just as speedily and much more effectually.

Mr. P. M. Bangs, counsel for the Mayor, declined saying anything concerning his Honor's side of the case unless the reporter would go back to the office and submit him a letter stating what points he wished information on. The reporter offered to write the letter then and there, but Mr. Bangs objected on the ground that he wished time for deliberation before answering the questions. Commissioner MacLean, when asked concerning the effect on the decision on his own tenure of office, was equally evasive. Neither he nor Mr. Whitney, the Corporation Counsel, were to be found last evening, a fact which gave rise to the rumor that the Mayor and his advisers were planning some new measure for breaking the force of the decision.

Commissioner Wheeler was found at the Gilsey House. He said: "If Mr. Nichols comes to us with this decision of the Court of Appeals, and a further decision in his favor from Judge Lawrence, Mr. French and myself will have to recognize him. That is all there is about it. We want to do nothing but what is fair and lawful, but I do not see how we can resist his claim to a seat under those circumstances. The Court of Appeals explicitly says that the Mayor in order to compass his removal lawfully, must grant him certain privileges which it is notorious have not been given him. If Mr. Nichols has not been lawfully removed by a competent authority, he is still the legal Commissioner, and we must perforce regard him as such."

"Do you believe that Mr. MacLean will fight?"

"I believe he will contest Mr. Nichols's claim, though in what manner I have no idea. He probably regards the decision as unjust to himself, and will not leave any legal means unused to keep his place and keep out Nichols. But if we do recognize Mr. Nichols, and the courts further side with him, Mr. MacLean will have a hard fight of it."

Commissioner Wheeler added that he had talked the matter over with Mr. French yesterday morning, and that the latter coincided with him. The costs of the litigation thus far have been very great, and are estimated already at nearly $100,000, all of which have to come out of the tax-payers' pockets. The larger share will go the counsel employed by the Mayor, Mr. Bangs, Gen. Barlow, ex-Judge Samuel Hand, of Albany, and Mr. Knox, Mr. MacLean's partner. It is believed that Mr. Whitney will pay the costs of the litigation out of the appropriations for his office, and thus prevent any demand on the Board of Apportionment.

Mr. Nichols's counsel have already notified the Board of Police not to pay any more of Commissioner MacLean's salary. In case Judge Lawrence decides in Mr. Nichols's favor, they will at once commence suit against Mr. MacLean for $4,000 and interest, being the amount of the Commissioner's salary for the eight months he has been in office. Gen. William F. Smith will also commence proceedings toward his restoration to office, the proceedings being based on the findings of the court in Mr. Nichols's suit, in his case there will be a balance to be sued for $3,000 and interest, being the amount paid Commissioner Morrison and Veerhis during the last six months. Mr. Lawrence, the private secretary of Commissioner Nichols, who was dismissed at the same time with his superior, has already instituted proceedings to recover his back pay, and it is thought Gen. Smith's secretary, Col. May, will do likewise.

ADMIRAL PORTER OF THE ENGINEERS.

The following letter from Admiral Porter has just been made public:

UNITED STATES NAVAL ACADEMY, ANNAPOLIS, Md., June 16, 1866.

DEAR SIR: I fully concur in your views in relation to making assistant engineers commissioned officers. It will add to their efficiency by adding to their standing, and it is their due. There is no class of officers in the Navy who are entitled to more consideration than the engineers. They are full of intelligence and ability to perform all that is required of them. None in the Navy have to pass through so hard an ordeal, and in battle their station is one where the utmost coolness is required, and where there is much danger. I have had nearly 2,000 engineers under my command during the rebellion, and I have never known them to shrink from any service. I hope sincerely the bill making them all commissioned officers will pass as it stands. Very truly yours,

DAVID D. PORTER, Rear-Admiral.

Chief Engineer W. W. W. Wood, United States Navy, Naval Academy, Annapolis, Md.

LAW-MAKING IN NEW-JERSEY.

JUDICIARY NOMINATIONS AND SALARIES—ELIZABETH'S FINANCES—A CONTESTED-ELECTION CASE.

TRENTON, N. J., Jan. 28.—The Senators held an exciting executive session this afternoon. The trouble was over the reports concerning the Governor's nominees for Law Judgeships, the same that were rejected by the Senate last year, and have, since the opening of the present session, been hanging fire. There were two of these reports. One, submitted by two members of the Judiciary Committee, was accompanied by no recommendation. Mr. Francis, of the same committee, reported against the confirmation of the names. In the discussion which followed high words passed between some of the Senators. There was such disturbance at one time that Senator Canfield, of Morris, suggested the propriety of an adjournment with the Doxology. The matter was laid over until next Monday evening. In the open session there was a warm discussion of the Judicial Salary bill, which was introduced yesterday. The bill can be made applicable speedily only as to the Judges of the three circuits whose terms are about to expire. The other Judges can go on taking fees until the end of the terms they are now serving. By that time a new census will have been taken that will increase their receipts beyond the figures given yesterday under the 2 per cent apportionment. When the bill was called up this morning the Democrats made a party fight against it. It was passed by a strict party vote.

One of the bills designed to relieve Elizabeth City from financial embarrassment was offered to the House by Assemblyman Dunn this morning. It authorizes the Common Council of the City to compromise the city's indebtedness with the creditors. Two-thirds of the members of the Council must agree to any form of compromise, and the people of the city must by vote ratify the proposed compromise before it can be effective. Assemblyman Styles said to-day that the main objection heretofore made by the creditors to listening to any kind of compromise was the fact that those proposing compromise had no power or authority to consummate it. That the City may be able to talk authoritatively in the premises, the enabling act of to-day was introduced.

The Brown contested-election case has occupied the attention of the House most of the day. Mr. Brown, a Democrat, holding the seat as Assemblyman from the Fourth District of Essex, William R. Williams, the Republican candidate, contested his election. The Republican majority of the Elections Committee reported to-day in favor of unseating Brown. The Democratic minority reported in favor of allowing Brown to retain his seat. The Democrats insisted on having all the testimony read, and the Clerk read until 6 o'clock. Then Mr. Vernon succeeded in getting an adjournment, and the House took a recess until 8 o'clock in the evening. The matter had been considered in caucus by both sides, and the Republican majority concluded that Williams was entitled to the place.

DARTMOUTH COLLEGE ALUMNI.

SIXTEENTH ANNUAL REUNION AND DINNER OF THE ASSOCIATION.

About 40 members of the Dartmouth College Alumni Association, of New-York, were present at the sixteenth annual dinner of the association, given at Pinard's, in East Fifteenth-street, last night. There were among them gentlemen who had graduated from the renowned college more than half a century ago, and others who had left it less than half a dozen years since. Some of the more prominent Alumni at the reunion were the Hon. E. W. Stoughton, J. P. Emerson, a graduate of the Class of '25, Erastus Everett, LL.D., Class of '36, Grosvenor S. Hubbard, the Rev. W. J. Tucker, D. D., Gen. Charles A. Carleton, R. Osgood Mason, George Walker, President of the Gold and Stock Telegraph Company, H. McK. Twombly, W. W. Niles, J. Waltner Barston, M. D., the Rev. John P. Fingry, Josiah Bartlett, Hiram Hitchcock, Joseph W. Howe, J. R. Bentley, and Dr. W. M. Chamberlain. Before the company sat down at table the annual election of officers took place, and the following gentlemen were chosen: the President and many of the others being re-elected: President—Prof. John Ordronaux, LL. D., '47. Vice-Presidents—Prof. Erastus Everett, LL. D., '36; William W. Chamberlain, M. D., '45; Jonathan Marshall, A. M., '54. Secretary—Charles R. Miller, '79. Corresponding Secretary—Joseph W. Howe, '56. Treasurer—Grosvenor S. Hubbard, LL. H., '52. Musical Director—George A. Willey, '72. Executive Committee—W. W. Niles, '45; J. S. Bouton, '43; Gen. C. M. Carleton, A.M., '57; Gilman H. Tucker, '61; Joseph E. Janovin, M. D., '63; W. R. Vanderpool, M. D., '76; Horace C. Baldwin, '68. Letters regretting their inability to be present were received from Joel Mann, Class of '10; Bishop W. B. Stevens, of Pennsylvania; Gen. R. D. Muzey; Profs. Kendrick and Andrews, of West Point; ex-Gov. John N. Goodwin, and others. The dinner over, President Ordronaux thanked the members for the honor done him in his re-election, and congratulated them on the presence of such distinguished representatives of the college, embracing as they did the fields of statesmanship, literature, the fine arts, medicine, theology, political economy, and, in fact, most of the higher callings in life. The club then sang the "College Ode" to the air, "My Mary-land." After which the Chairman proposed the health of E. W. Stoughton, as one of the benefactors of the college. Mr. Stoughton responded briefly, and in the course of his remarks expressed the opinion that this school, which was organized in 1754, under the Rev. Eleazar Wheelock, "for the education of young savages," and incidentally, for the instruction of a few students for the ministry, had, judging from what he saw about him, succeeded in improving the complexions and expanding the intellects of the young savages to some good purpose. The Rev. John P. Fingry was next invited to speak, and related some highly interesting reminiscences of the Faculty and of college life at Dartmouth, many years ago, some of the reminiscences being of a peculiarly touching character. Referring to the fact that the late Salmon P. Chase was an Alumnus of Dartmouth, and that there was present another Alumnus who had been the friend and associate of Chase, and who had followed in his footsteps as a financier and political economist, the President next called on Mr. George Walker to address the club. The gentleman responded in an appropriate manner, some part of his remarks being taken up with a narration of a slight incident. A mere casual evening passed with a friend, which diverted him from the study of law to the science of political economy, which he had followed ever since. Mr. Hitchcock, one of the Trustees of the college, and other gentlemen addressed the association, and the company separated shortly before midnight.

DEATH OF A WELL-KNOWN PHYSICIAN.

Yesterday morning at 8 o'clock, James W. Scribner, M. D., of Tarrytown, died at his residence in that village, aged 50 years. He was one of the most prominent doctors and surgeons in the State, and was highly esteemed for his eminent qualities as a physician and citizen. He was the son of Dr. James Scribner, who was also prominent in his profession. During his residence in Tarrytown, he has taken a lively interest in its affairs. For two successive terms he was elected President of the village, and was for many years a Trustee. He was also for many years the President of the Westchester County Agricultural Society, which has now gone out of existence. For a long time, and up to the time of his death, he was the physician of the Westchester County Alms-house. At one time he was the President of the Westchester County Medical Society, and proved an able presiding officer. He was a member of the State Medical Society and the American Medical Association. He was also a member of the Second Reformed Church of Tarrytown, and a member in high standing in Solomon's Lodge, F. and A. M.; also, in the Chapter and Westchester Commandery. The disease which terminated in his death yesterday baffled all attempts at diagnosis, many eminent physicians having been called to examine him. He himself always thought he was suffering from a cancer. On Tuesday afternoon, Dr. Sands, of New-York, performed an operation on him at his request, from the effects of which he slowly sank till death ensued. He leaves a widow and two daughters.

A CORRECTION.

There is, happily, no truth in the report that recently Chief-Justice Noah Davis lost two daughters by disease, the result of defective sewerage. Judge Davis's family have been and are in the enjoyment of perfect health. The story about the deaths in Judge Davis's family originated with a neighbor who, with the best of motives, informed Deputy Registrar Nagle, of the Board of Health, who requested Inspector Neelie to make an investigation. The neighbor heard that Judge Davis was collecting signatures to a petition for the result of the sewer in West Fifty-sixth-street, and, in reporting to Dr. Nagle, spoke of deaths in the distinguished jurist's family which occurred out of town and some time ago as of recent occurrence. The same source supplied the information that six deaths of other persons of diphtheria and typhoid fever had occurred in the neighborhood of No. 44 West Fifty-sixth-street. It is true that a vitrified sewer-pipe had broken and caused infiltration of sewage in West Fifty-sixth-street. The sewer is now under repair.

MISCELLANEOUS CITY NEWS

THE CASE OF MAJOR VERPLANCK.

TESTIMONY SHOWING THAT HE WAS FOND OF SPIRITUOUS LIQUORS.

The evidence adduced yesterday by the medical court of inquiry in the case of Lieut. and Brevet Major Abram G. Verplanck, instead of sustaining his plea of insanity, tended to prove that his misdeeds, while acting as Post Adjutant at Fort Wadsworth last Fall, were the result of an immoderate use of spirituous liquors. Second Lieut. E. R. Lamly, of the Third Artillery, who was the first witness examined yesterday, occupied the same quarters with the officer under examination at Fort Wadsworth. During the six months prior to the arrest of the Major the witness had every opportunity for discovering whether or not the accused officer labored under aberration of the mind, and his observations led him to believe that he was a sane man. With regard to sobriety, Major Verplanck's habits were, in the opinion of Lieut. Lamly, bad. The charge upon which he was arrested was drunkenness while on duty. At the general court-martial, the witness testified under oath that in his opinion the Major was under the influence of liquor at the time of his arrest. Witness did not know any other cause that would render the Major morally and legally irresponsible for his acts. He was not acquainted with Major Verplanck's family history, nor with the condition of his finances, except from hearsay.

Capt. A. C. Wildrick, of the Third Artillery, now stationed at Fort Wadsworth, described the circumstances attending the arrest and trial of Major Verplanck and his subsequent departures from the garrison without leave of absence. His testimony, the most explicit thus far recorded in the case, is as follows: "I have no reason to believe that Major Verplanck was not fully qualified to perform his duties except on occasions when he was under the influence of drink. While at Fort Wadsworth he acted in the capacities of Senior Officer of the Battery, Adjutant of the Post, and Post Treasurer. I have never seen him so much under the influence of liquor that he could not attend to his duties, but at times in his room, I have seen him very nervous. This was after his frequent visits to town. Although he was at such times hardly responsible for his acts, I did not suppose that he labored under aberration of the mind. On the morning of Sept. 25 the Officer of the Parade reported to me that Major Verplanck was intoxicated. I directed a Lieutenant to assume the duties of Adjutant and placed Major Verplanck in arrest. He subsequently came to me and asked me who was in command of the post. I said: 'I was in temporary command,' and told him the best thing he could do would be to go to his quarters. His manner and conversation then led me to suppose that he was drunk; he did not appear to be in any way insane. He broke his parole three times, once constructive. On Sept. 26 I received a note from him asking me to suspend his arrest and to allow him to go to New-York on important private business. I refused to do so, but told him that I would report the case to the commanding officer, which he returned. After the 27 I, as the commander of the post, received another note from Major Verplanck, who informed me of the commander's arrival and asked me to see him. I said to his colored boy, 'All right.' I then went to the commanding officer and reported the circumstances of the case. The officer ordered me to place a guard at the door. I afterward ascertained that he had gone immediately after the delivery of my message, 'All right.' He returned to the post the next day, and went away again without authority eight or ten days later. This time he remained away about two weeks. On returning he was placed in arrest by a court-martial, as referred to by the commanding officer. After his trial, he remained at the post till Nov. 3, when he again left without permission and was absent about six weeks. Before his voluntary return a cousin of his visited me and told me that he had just left Major Verplanck in New-York; that he had been urging him to return to the post, and that Major Verplanck had promised to do so." When the question was asked, "Do you know why he went to New-York?" Major Verplanck requested that the witness refrain from answering the question until the court-room be cleared.

The court then requested the reporters to retire, and for about a quarter of an hour the proceedings were conducted privately. When, after the reopening of the doors, the evidence of the witness was read to him, that portion taken privately was omitted. The investigation will be resumed to-day.

THE MUNICH COLLECTION.

SOME GOOD PICTURES SOLD AT VERY LOW PRICES.

Thomas E. Kirby & Son concluded the sale of their Munich collection of painting last evening, at their gallery, No. 845 Broadway. The latter lots of the catalogue created some good bidding and awakened interest. The centre of admiration, however, was the fine work attributed to Turner, entitled "A Venetian Scene," which was sold for $950. Tissot's "Ready for the Promenade," and Hamilton's fine marine were both withdrawn, no one being ready to start them at their respective upset prices of $950 and $500. Van Der Veene's "Prescribed Race," with an upset price of $600, was sold for $100 above that amount. Hugo Salmson's (Paris) "January and May" was withdrawn on Tuesday evening at an upset price of $1,000, was sold for $275. Appended is a list of the more important works sold:

Artist.	Subject.	Price.
O. Herpter	Old Gallant and Maid	$350
P. Heath	Landscape	250
L. Von Haas	The Gamblyter	250
J. Ross	Playing Old Maid	350
W. Schnetz	Autumn Pleasure	125
T. Makay	Rest at Noon	125
R. Beyschlag	The Lover's Walk	225
A. Bodenmueller	The Traveling Merchant	575
J. Schmitzberger	On a Point	250
J. Vollmar	Outlet in the Woods	150
O. Herpter	Dressing the Bride	170
A. W. Kowalski	The Meet	650
D. Maccarter	Playing the Mandolins	210
J. Schmitzberger	Fishing Boy	125
A. Van Der Venne	The Prescribed Race	700
J. J. Tissot	Ready for the Promenade	4[illegible]
James Hamilton	A Storm Off Brignattine Shoals	6[illegible]
H. M. Wheeler	Venetian Scene	950
H. Saemson	January and May	275

FLIGHT OF A BOOK-KEEPER.

It was currently reported in Washington Market yesterday that a book-keeper of the firm of Ege & Otis, the largest commission merchants there, was a defaulter to a large amount, but investigation proved the reports greatly exaggerated. It appears that William Brownlay, who had been in their employ off and on for 11 years, disappeared on Thursday, since which time he has not been seen. The firm, however, received a letter from him confessing that he had taken $467 of their money, a portion of which he had collected from a number of customers. The letter did not mention any offer of restitution or compromise. He is about 35 years of age, resided in Jersey City, where he has a wife and child. Mr. Ege said yesterday that they had suspected him for a year past, but had no means of verifying their suspicions, and they did not know his whereabouts. Brownlay had charge of the blotter and petty cash of the firm, and was intrusted with the collection of small accounts.

THE CHANGEABLE WEATHER.

There was a sudden rise in the temperature in this City yesterday, and a fall almost as sudden. The thermometer in the United States Signal Service Bureau, on the roof of the Equitable Building, indicated 49° at 7 A. M., 57° at 11 A. M., and attained 62°, its highest point during the day, at 2 P. M. An hour later the mercury began to fall. At 9 P. M. it stood at 45°, and at 10 it had dropped to 42°. The sudden change from heat to cold was caused by a cold wave which originated in the far North-west yesterday morning. The coldest place was Breckenridge, Minn., where the mercury was 10° below zero. At other places it was above zero, as follows: Duluth, 2°; Lacrosse, Wis., 6°; St. Paul, 6°; Marquette, 10°; Hankton, Dakota, 11°; Cheyenne, 11°; Escanaba, 11°; Madison, 14°; Chicago, 16°; Sandusky and St. Louis, 25°. The greatest fall was at Keokuk, Iowa, from 56° to 29°. The wind was blowing at the rate of 20 miles an hour, from the north-west, at 10 o'clock last night, and the indications were that it would be much colder to-day.

ARRIVALS AT THE HOTELS.

L. Z. Leiter, of Chicago, is at the Clarendon Hotel.

William Penn Lewis, of Baltimore, is at the Grand Hotel.

Ex-Senator D. P. Wood, of Syracuse, is at the Hoffman.

The Hon. Horace Rublee, of Wisconsin, is at the Brevoort House.

Col. Loder and Capt. Lorain, United States Army, are at the St. Denis Hotel.

John Dillon, of Dublin, and Ensign H. Kellogg, of Pittsfield, Mass., are at the New-York Hotel.

Joseph W. Gannett, Auditor of the Union Pacific Railroad Company, and ex-Senator George N. Kennedy, of Syracuse, are at the Windsor Hotel.

Senator George G. Vest, Representative John B. Clark, Jr., and ex-Congressman John F. Philips, of Missouri; Gen. A. G. Lawrence, of Rhode Island, and the Rev. Dr. Brainard, of Auburn, N. Y., are at the Gilsey House.

The Hon. George S. Boutwell and Congressman William A. Russell, of Massachusetts; ex-Gov. G. O. Washburn, of Wisconsin; ex-Congressman Lewis B. Ganskel, of Ohio, and Col. H. S. McComb, of Delaware, are at the Fifth-Avenue Hotel.

MIRANDA WOOD'S WILL.

Miranda Wood, of Brooklyn, was one of the first members of Plymouth Church, and she made a will during the anti-slavery agitation leaving $4,000 to establish in New-York a seminary for colored females, "and should public opinion prevent—which may God forbid—said seminary from being established in New-York within five years of my decease, my said Trustees shall select a location for said school in any of the free States or Canada." Henry Ward Beecher and Henry C. Bowen, the sons Pastor of, and the father at the time, Beecher's Plymouth Church, were named as Executors. Both, owing to the complications of late years, refused to serve when action was made necessary by the death of Mrs. Wood in June, 1878. The Public Administrator brought an action for the construction of the will as to the validity of the trust. Judge Gilbert decides as follows: "The will is unambiguous. The only difficulty is the bequest is too small. The only solution of that is to keep it invested until it becomes large enough."

THE COMMISSIONERS OF ACCOUNTS.

SOME LIGHT FROM THEM REGARDING THEIR ANNUAL REPORT.

To the Editor of the New-York Times:

In your issue of to-day you are pleased to say:

"The Mayor sent to the Board of Aldermen yesterday what professes to be the annual report of the Commissioners of Accounts in relation to the operations of the Finance Department for 1879. Like other reports on City finances, this production seems chiefly calculated to make darkness visible. As it comes down only to Nov. 30, 1879, it can hardly be called a report for last year, and as it contains no information not summarized in the Mayor's Message, it is certainly not new."

We beg to say that the report from this office that was sent yesterday by the Mayor to the Board of Aldermen does not profess to be the annual report for 1879. If you will be good enough to refer to its text, and to the tabular statements accompanying it, you will find that it professes to be, and is, the report for the statutory year that ended on the 30th day of November, 1879, and that it was made under the requirement of section 24 of chapter 335 of the Laws of 1873, and that it is in full compliance with the requirement of that statute.

The report contains some matter not introduced into the Mayor's Message, and if it seems chiefly calculated to make darkness visible in the eyes of your writer, we can only say, God help his vision. The statements are simple and plain, and it is not our fault if they are not understood. We quite agree with the writer of your article in this, viz.:

"That it is surely possible to find two Commissioners of Accounts who have intelligence enough to discontinue from the listlessness of corporation book keeping such facts as these:

"*First*—The amount of debt paid during the year from the revenues of the sinking fund, from taxation, and from the payments of assessments.

"*Second*—The amount of local expenditures, other than those required for State purposes and debt charges, which were paid from taxation, and the amount paid by the issue of bonds.

"*Third*—Some intelligible statement showing why the appropriation of $75,000 for judgments in 1878 has increased to $500,000 in 1880, and why the surplus of $4,000,000 from the general fund, which was deducted from taxation in 1876, has sunk to $1,500,000 in 1880."

But, we deny that it is proper to put such information in our "annual" statement. There is an opportunity afforded us, however, by the statute to make public such information as we deem proper; but it must be done through the medium of the "quarterly" reports required by section 106 of chapter 335 of the Laws of 1873.

These quarterly reports are made to cover the calendar year for which the appropriations are made. The reports for the quarters of the calendar year 1879 have been published. That for the last quarter, ending Dec. 31, 1879, is now nearly ready, and will contain not only the information the writer of your article asks for, but a great deal besides that perhaps has not occurred to him. We shall be very glad to furnish you a copy of this report, and of the tables accompanying it, as soon as it has been published in the *City Record*, and also to give you, or any one else who may, in good faith, be seeking information of the City finances, such other facts in our possession as may be desired. We do not consider it to be our "official function," however, to do this, but we believe that the good of the City requires the utmost publicity of its affairs, and to this end we shall be very glad to aid the public to the extent of our power.

In the meantime, we may be allowed to call your attention to some facts in the information of the writer of your article, and they are these:

First—In addition to the appropriation of $75,000 for judgments in 1879, judgment bonds were issued that year amounting to $161,150. The appropriation for judgments for the year 1880 included a sum necessary to pay a judgment obtained by the Metropolitan Gas-light Company, amounting, with interest, to $252,239 25. The gas was supplied in the year 1871, but the claim was not judicially determined until 1879.

Second—The receipts of the general fund for 1879, which were estimated at $2,000,000, were actually $3,280,617 15, inclusive of a balance of $616,088 16 brought from the previous year, showing that there was an overestimate in 1876 of $719,382 85, or, including the above-mentioned balance, $1,287,471 01.

Under the act of June 3, 1878, the surplus revenue of the sinking fund for payment of interest on the City debt, which, prior to 1879, went into the general fund, were thereafter paid, instead, into the sinking fund for redemption of the debt. The loss of revenue to the general fund is thus compensated by the gain to the sinking fund.

W. P. SHEARMAN,
J. W. BARROW,
Commissioners of Accounts.

OFFICE OF THE COMMISSIONERS OF ACCOUNTS, NO. 27 CHAMBERS-STREET, NEW-YORK, Wednesday, Jan. 28, 1880.

THE JERSEY CITY MURDER TRIAL.

SUDDEN TERMINATION OF THE CASE—THE PRISONERS MAKE NO DEFENSE.

The Smith-Bennett murder case, now on trial in the Hudson County Court of Oyer and Terminer, in Jersey City, had a sudden and somewhat curious termination yesterday morning. The result will be to send the case to the jury with, practically, no defense. When the court opened, Police Captain M. G. Lennon was recalled to identify the knife and sash-weight, and also the undergarments found at Mrs. Smith's house the morning after the murder. Richard R. Ranken testified that he was a member of the Grand Jury at the term of court held in September, 1879, and witnessed the identification of Bennett by the witness Martin J. Cummings, Assistant District Attorney Vandervoort testified that there was a stenographic report made of the last trial. Here the case rested. Mr. McGill not having been able to secure the attendance of Mary Phillips, the witness who was imprisoned with Mrs. Smith for some weeks, and who was instrumental in discovering the correspondence alleged to have passed between Bennett and Mrs. Smith.

Counsel for the defense made no opening whatever, but called their first witness, Thomas Rimmel. The State objected to this and demanded a formal opening. This the court decided to be optional with the defense. Mr. Rimmel was sworn, but his evidence was of no consequence, being merely as to some changes that had taken place in the interior of the house in which the murder was committed.

"May it please the court," said Mr. Winfield, "on behalf of Jennie E. Smith, we rest."

A murmur of surprise ran round the court-room, which increased as Mr. Hoffman arose and said: "May it please the court, on behalf of Covert D. Bennett, we rest."

Attorney-General Stockton immediately asked for an adjournment, as the State's attorneys were not prepared to sum up. Mr. Winfield replied that the defense were not particular as to the summing up in either side, and would be satisfied if the Judge would charge the jury at once. The court, after a brief deliberation, decided to adjourn the case until 10 o'clock this morning.

The denouement in the case created much comment in Jersey City, and considerable astonishment. At the time of the first trial Senator Winfield was inclined to let the case go to trial without any defense. "There is no case against the accused people," he said to the TIMES reporter. "There is nothing requiring a defense. I am disposed to make no plea." But he seems to have been overborne by the advice of his fellow-counsel. In view of the former trial, and the admissions made by the defendants as to the writing and receipt of the eight-page letter, the failure to interpose a defense now is regarded by the majority of citizens as a dangerous experiment. It may, however, have been partly the result of the action of the court in forcing the case to trial before counsel for the defense could secure themselves of the attendance of De Gay. This, it will be remembered, was the witness who testified at the first trial in support of Bennett's alibi that he met Bennett in a garden on the Bowery, in this City, at 11 o'clock on the night of the murder. The State has tried to prove that at that very hour he was riding in a Lafayette car toward Bedford Corners. Some doubt was yesterday expressed this evening as to whether the defense will make an argument to the jury to-day. The offer of the defense to submit the case without argument is said to have been dictated by the same view that at the first trial disposed Senator Winfield to let it go to the jury without any defense at all. The State will put in no summing up, and the defense may deem an argument necessary to overcome its effect.

ANDRE'S CAPTORS' MONUMENT.

A Monument Association has been organized in the Village of Tarrytown, Westchester County, to perpetuate and keep in order the monument erected at that place to the memory of the captors of Major André. The incorporators are Messrs. M. Holmes Odell, A. R. Clark, B. P. Swartwout, Jacob B. Odell, B. Roque, W. T. Lockwood, J. S. Millard, and H. E. Foulding. They have met and fully organized by electing the following officers: President—A. R. Clark; Vice-President—J. B. Odell; Secretary—W. T. Lockwood; Treasurer—J. S. Millard. The memorial monument, which stands on Broadway, in the village, was dedicated on the 23d of September, 1853, when Hewatie Sagoyewa was present and took part in the ceremony, and Henry J. Raymond delivered the oration. On the 23d of September next the anniversary of the occasion will be observed by this society with a centennial celebration. In the meantime they will have the monument reset, the grounds about it cleaned up and otherwise improved.

TROUBLE IN A LUTHERAN CHURCH.

The Union Hill Lutheran Church has been added to the religious associations that are in trouble. Eighteen months ago they built a church upon which, when finished, rested a $2,500 mortgage. The furniture was bought by two of the congregation, Messrs. Kuhlmann and Von Dagen, who gave their personal notes for it. The amount was $297. At a recent meeting of the Trustees, it was decided to ask the Pastor the Rev. Herman Shuppe, to resign. Mr. Shuppe, hearing that the meeting was in progress, went to Police Sergeant Wean and asked him to disperse the meeting, on the ground that it was being held at a private residence, the rules requiring all meetings of Trustees to be held in the church. Wean went to Mr. Kuhlman's house, and the meeting was being held, and called on the meeting to disperse. The Trustees held the document to mind his own business, that they had a right to meet where they pleased. At the next service Mr. Shuppe denounced the Trustees in unmeasured terms. Subsequently, he and Mr. Kuhlman had a meeting, and the difficulty was patched up. On the following Sunday Mr. Shuppe said that the trouble had been healed, and that he and Kuhlman were now friends. Mr. Kuhlman arose and excitedly stated that it was not so. Mr. Shuppe retorted that "if Mr. Kuhlman denied his statement he was a liar." A war of words followed, and all the members withdrew except 12. The claims against the church have been placed in the hands of Justice Franklin.

BROOKLYN'S PARK DEPARTMENT.

WHY ASSEMBLYMAN TALLMADGE WISHES TO CONTINUE STRANAHAN IN POWER.

The following private circular was issued to the employes of the Park Department in Brooklyn just before the last election:

BROOKLYN, Nov. 1, 1879.

Mr. —

DEAR SIR: The Hon. D. W. Tallmadge having been nominated for the Assembly by the citizens and Republicans of this district, indorsed by the citizens and the Democratic Convention, I respectfully politely your support and influence with your friends in his behalf. He failed to receive the "regular" nomination of his party because of bribery and the purchase of delegates previously pledged to his support. His record in the last Legislature has received the commendations of the entire press and the praise of our most distinguished citizens without regard to party. His ability and integrity no one questions, and all who believe in the wisdom of nominating good and true men for office, and who would rebuke the corrupt practice of purchasing delegates in order to control conventions, should give a hearty support to Mr. Tallmadge. He is one of the best informed men in Brooklyn in regard to our local affairs, and his knowledge and experience will be of special value in the next Legislature. He is the man for the people, and he ought to be elected by a large majority. Please do what you can to make his election sure. Yours truly,

ERNST NATHAN.

At the request of Mr. Quevedo.—

The name of Mr. Nathan, as ex-Supervisor of the Twenty-third Ward, one of the disaffected Republicans who supported the Democratic Ring nominee for Assembly in the Eleventh District, is written at the foot of each of the circulars, and the words, "At the request of Mr. Quevedo" is in the same handwriting. Mr. Quevedo is the Secretary of the Park Commission, and the right-hand man of Mr. J. S. T. Stranahan, the President of the commission. Mr. Stranahan has managed to hold that position since the commission was formed, although against the wish of the people's representatives as expressed by a vote of 24 to 1 in the Board of Aldermen. Mr. Stranahan, in pursuance of a design to fix himself and his followers more firmly in places which they have held for years, has directed Tallmadge to introduce a bill extending the terms of the Park Commissioners for two years. The circular given above is one of those actually sent to a park employe, and the addition of it at the request of Mr. Quevedo" was nothing more or less than a threat that a refusal to support Tallmadge would result in the dismissal of the employe so refusing. The circular itself, which is a blame of falsehoods, should be read in the light of the fact that men were threatened with the loss of their bread and butter if they refused to support Tallmadge, although the latter, after he had been fairly beaten in the convention, stood upon the platform and publicly congratulated Mr. Waring on his victory. It was not until Tallmadge learned that he could sell out his party advantageously to the Democratic Ring that he took "Boss" McLaughlin's nomination, without which he could not have been elected.

MR. SENEY'S LIBERAL GIFTS.

From the Methodist.

A few months ago Mr. George I. Seney, President of the Metropolitan Bank, in this City, gave $50,000 to the endowment fund of the Wesleyan University, Middletown, Conn. We are now permitted to say that Mr. Seney has added $75,000 to his gift. On Monday last Oliver Hoyt, President of the University Board of Trustees, called at our office, and stated that Mr. Seney had that morning sent for him, counted out $75,000 in bonds, and said: "Take this, and pay it on his (quota of the annual deficit of the university,) and handed over these funds to be placed in the university treasury. It is as well, perhaps, to add that at the same time Mr. Seney sent his check for $2,500 to Presiding Elder Beach as his annual contribution to the support of worn-out preachers of the New-York East Conference. The total of $78,500 made a very good day's work even for a prince in Methodism. Within a year Mr. Seney has given $130,000 to the Wesleyan University. The example ought to be worth a good deal to our struggling Methodist colleges. A recent year so enriched the interest of Methodism has been in such serious danger. The colleges have been maintained in great part by the sacrifices of the Professors and the liberality of a few noble men. We begin to hope that our colleges will not always be distressingly poor.

FOREIGN BUSINESS INTERESTS.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The Bristol *Times and Mirror* to-day says: "We hear that a third line of steamers between Bristol and the United States is contemplated."

The *Financier* this morning says: "Representatives of the French

INDEX TO CLASSIFIED ADVERTISEMENTS.

AMUSEMENTS—Seventh Page—5th and 7th cols.
AUCTION SALES—Sixth Page—6th col.
BANKING AND FINANCIAL—Sixth Page—4th col.
BANKRUPT NOTICES—Seventh Page—6th col.
BATHS—Sixth Page—6th col.
BOARDING AND LODGING—Seventh Page—6th col.
BUSINESS CHANCES—Seventh Page—4th col.
BUSINESS NOTICES—Fifth Page—7th col.
CITY ROOMS TO LET—Sixth Page—6th col.
CITY ITEMS—Fourth Page—7th col.
CITY REAL ESTATE—Sixth Page—6th col.
COUNTRY HOUSES TO LET—Sixth Page—6th col.
COUNTRY REAL ESTATE—Sixth Page—6th col.
DANCING—Seventh Page—6th col.
DRESS—Fifth Page—7th col.
DIVIDENDS—Seventh Page—6th col.
ELECTIONS—Seventh Page—5th col.
FINANCIAL—Seventh Page—3d and 4th cols.
FRENCH ADVERTISEMENTS—Seventh Page—2d.
FURNISHED ROOMS—Seventh Page—5th col.
INSTRUCTION—Seventh Page—6th col.
LOST AND FOUND—Seventh Page—4th col.
MARRIAGES—Fifth Page—7th col.
MEETINGS—Seventh Page—7th col.
MISCELLANEOUS—Sixth Page—6th col.
MUSICAL—Sixth Page—7th col.
NEW PUBLICATIONS—Fifth Page—7th col.
POLITICAL—Fifth Page—7th col.
RAILROADS—Seventh Page—5th col.
REAL ESTATE AT AUCTION—Sixth Page—6th col.
RELIGIOUS NOTICES—Seventh Page—7th col.
ROOMS WANTED—Seventh Page—5th col.
SHIPPING—Sixth Page—7th col.
SITUATIONS WANTED—Seventh Page—1st & 2d.
SPECIAL NOTICES—Fifth Page—7th col.
STEAMBOATS—Seventh Page—7th col.
STORES, &c., TO LET—Sixth Page—6th col.
TEACHERS—Seventh Page—5th col.

The New-York Times.

NEW-YORK, THURSDAY, JAN. 29, 1880.

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

ACADEMY OF MUSIC—Charity Ball.
WALLACK'S THEATRE—London Assurance.
UNION-SQUARE THEATRE—The False Friend.
BOOTH'S THEATRE—La Sonnambula.
PARK THEATRE—Parsifal.
FIFTH-AVENUE—The Pirates of Penzance.
DALY'S THEATRE—The Royal Middy.
BROADWAY—Madame Angot's Daughter.
HAVERLY'S THEATRE—The Tourists. Matinée.
KIRLOF'S GARDEN—The Gallery Slave.
THEATRE COMIQUE—Bulligan Guards' Christmas.
SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS—Variety.
STANDARD THEATRE—Our Candidate.
NEW-YORK AQUARIUM—Parisian Circus.
NEW-YORK SKATING RINK—Skating. Matinée.
GRAND OPERA-HOUSE—At 2 P. M.—Variety.
ASSOCIATION HALL—Concert and Readings.

The Signal Service Bureau report indicates for to-day, in this region, colder and clear or partly cloudy weather, north-east to north-west winds, and rising barometer.

The Senate bill to repeal existing laws providing for permanent and indefinite appropriations for specific objects is another attempt to place in the hands of Congress the power to "starve out" an Administration which may be antagonistic to the Legislative body. Under the laws as they now stand, the Executive branches of the Government may be maintained from year to year by the use of moneys accruing to their credit by the operation of permanent provisions. It is proposed that all of the money in the Treasury, except that required for the payment of interest on the national debt, appropriations for the sinking fund, and a few other purposes, shall be under the absolute control of Congress, which may, at any time, close the doors of the Treasury and refuse the supplies needed to carry on the Government at the will and caprice of those who happen to control the two houses. That this is a power not to be lightly trusted into the hands of any faction is abundantly proved by the mischievous doings of a Democratic Congress.

The "rump" Legislature in Maine has adjourned until next August. This means that that piratical political organization has given up playing at being Legislature, and has wisely decided to postpone all further devices until it is time to prepare for the Fall elections. The managers have given notice that they intend to appeal to the people. There can be no possible doubt as to the character of the answer which they will receive. Meantime, two of the members of the Smith Legislature have taken the seats to which they are entitled in the real Legislature, and others are uncertain whether to go home and brood over their disappointments, or stay and contest their seats, with an eye to the slender allowance usually voted to contestants. In this way, Mr. SMITH'S Legislature is finally extinguished.

There were some very promising indications in the Assembly yesterday, of a determination on the part of the majority to leave such a Legislative record as will reflect credit on the party, and confer lasting benefit on the public. The jealousy with which proposals to exempt charitable and other institutions from their due share of public burdens was received is an evidence that this Assembly will not fritter away public money for purposes which, however admirable in themselves, should receive nothing from State or municipality which does not clearly appear as an item of current expenditure. The early introduction of Mr. VARNUM'S bills for the reduction of the expenses of our City Government, and the obvious determination of Mr. VARNUM *himself to infuse his own vigor and earnestness* into the committee of which he is the head, are satisfactory guarantees that the subject of economical administration in New-York will not be trifled with during the session, and left at the mercy of adverse influences at its close. The passage of Mr. DURELL'S resolution of inquiry into the appointment of Receivers and Referees by New-York Judges, and into the fees paid to them and certain favored counsel, ought to elicit some very suggestive, if not rather startling, facts. As THE TIMES will take further occasion to show, this mine of jobbery and favoritism is a very rich one.

Mr. WINDOM, in the Senate, has joined Mr. BAKER, in the House, to provide some defense for innocent purchasers of articles manufactured under patents against the persecutions to which they are now subjected. We have already called attention to the manner in which our Patent laws are used as means of extortion. The purchaser, who does not, and perhaps who cannot, know that he is injuring any one, is frequently threatened with a suit which involves considerable expense for the defendant, whether he wins or loses it; then, an adroit suggestion is made for a compromise, and the laws are thus used as an instrument of swindling. These laws were intended to protect a patentee, and, as between him and those who knowingly make or purchase for sale articles infringing his patent, they are not too severe. But the man who innocently purchases such an article for his own use and not for sale, ought to be free from pursuit. He makes no profit by his act, since he pays the full market value of what he buys; he is guilty of no intentional wrong to the patentee, while the one of whom he buys can always be found and prosecuted. In such cases, justice and common-sense demand that the buyer should not suffer.

The appointments made by the Governor yesterday for Quarantine Commissioner, Canal Appraisers, Commissioners of Emigration, and Special Port Warden ought to be entirely satisfactory to the public. The friends of Mr. PLATT have been for some years engaged in trying to find an office for him adequate to his political deserts and commensurate with his abilities. He was pressed for the position of Postmaster-General under the present Administration, and some irritation was, doubtless, felt because the Republican Party of this State did not, so far as heard from, entirely share in the opinion of his friends that he would make a fitting representative of the State of New-York in the Cabinet of President HAYES. He was prominently mentioned as a candidate for the position of Superintendent of Public Works, and there was a decided feeling of relief when he was not appointed. As Quarantine Commissioner, his peculiar political methods will not seriously interfere with his discharge of public business, and as a resident of this City engaged in large and presumably promising enterprises, he will have a chance to grow up to the standard of public utility which may entitle him to some more important position. The other appointees are, so far as we know, men thoroughly well fitted to discharge the duties to which the Governor has assigned them.

The Commissioners of Accounts do not conceive it to be their chief function to present, in a shape intelligible to the ordinary reader, the most essential details regarding the operations of the City Treasury, but they graciously intimate that in their next quarterly report they will give all the information which can be desired in regard *to the revenues and expenditures of the* past year. They even hint that they will be more explicit than THE TIMES has recommended them to be, which may possibly be accepted as an indication of their intention to make such recommendations, "particularly with reference to salaries and duties" of City employes, as the law has long called for in vain. The Commissioners are good enough to furnish some data in explanation of the large appropriation for judgments in 1880, and the gradual disappearance of the general fund as an element in the reduction of taxation is accounted for by the operation of the law of 1878, which turns surplus revenues previously used to reduce taxation into the sinking fund for the redemption of the City debt. We trust that among the details which "have not occurred" to us, but which will, nevertheless, be furnished by the Commissioners of Accounts, will be some details as to the working of this much-vaunted law of 1878, both as regards the productiveness of the assessment fund and the security furnished by the sinking fund for the redemption of the bonded debt.

MR. ADAMS AND HIS COMMISSION.

When dealing with certain aspects of the railroad question, Mr. CHARLES FRANCIS ADAMS, Jr., is perhaps as great an expert as Mr. FINK is known to be in regard to others. The trouble with both is that their sympathies are more with the companies than with the public, and that their reasoning does not touch parts of the question which are rapidly acquiring commanding importance. As an auxiliary in the work of legislation Mr. FINK would be the more valuable. He is nothing if not practical, and if he were half as much in earnest in his endeavors to facilitate remedial legislation as he is to protect the companies from an interference that might be troublesome, the course of men like Mr. REAGAN would be rendered comparatively smooth. Mr. FINK serves faithfully the power that has retained him, and the House Committee on Commerce gains little from his experience. It is puzzled rather than helped by his statements. The position of Mr. ADAMS is in essential particulars different. But he can hardly be considered a conclusive witness where the issue to be determined involves the relative authority of the nation and the railroads. Indirectly, he is subject to the influence of the latter. And the brief report of his argument before the House committee will certainly not tend to efface the impression which associates him more or less closely with the pretensions of capital as against the requirements of the people.

On its merits, Mr. ADAMS'S argument is open to the objection that it applies to the *larger necessities of the nation the conditions* that are justified by the limited experience of Massachusetts. All that he alleges in behalf of the system at work in his State is no doubt literally true. There, a railroad commission operates admirably. It benefits the public without injuring the railroads. It watches vigilantly, and with public opinion for its leverage it makes itself felt in every branch of the railroad system of the State. Excellent as it is, however, we should no more think of copying in its entirety the Massachusetts commission, as the sole power wanted in New-York, than of copying the Massachusetts method of taxation as applied to railroads. Our Albany legislators would undoubtedly find their knowledge of the subject enlarged by weighing carefully such evidence as Mr. ADAMS is competent to give; but they would err, we think, if they accepted his plan bodily, and left the whole matter in the hands of Commissioners. Of course, any system depends for much of its efficacy on the capacity and integrity of the persons who administer it. We are not therefore to take for granted Mr. ADAMS'S dictum, and to leave everything to a commission. Though Massachusetts may have been lucky enough always to obtain angels for Commissioners, other States might be less fortunate; and for this contingency the Legislature should provide. Instead of making the commission everything and the law nothing, the safe plan would be to enact a stringent law, and to impose upon Commissioners the duty of administering it in harmony with its purposes.

Extending the range of view, and applying to the vast railroad system of the country the restraining power of the Massachusetts commission, the inadequacy of the latter immediately becomes apparent. The inadequacy would be evident if only we considered the difficulty of selecting Commissioners in whom large powers might be vested with the assurance of their being used faithfully and energetically. It is not, as Mr. ADAMS chooses to state the question, whether honest and capable men are or are not to be found. The trouble is that in national, even more than in local affairs corporate influences may be so employed as, silently and unseen, to control the *personnel* of a commission. Our experience with the representatives of the Government in the affairs of the Union Pacific illustrates the difficulty. The Commissioners and Government Directors may all have been honorable men, judging of them by the average standard, but in some way it has invariably happened that the officers appointed to watch the railroad managers have become their apologists if not their allies. The same result would almost inevitably follow the acceptance of Mr. ADAMS'S nostrum, in lieu of the rigorous legislation which he deprecates. The commission would not command public confidence, and in all probability would not deserve it.

Mr. ADAMS places much reliance on the efficacy of public opinion as a means of enabling the commission to restrain and in a certain sense to guide the railroad companies. Because it is all-sufficient in Massachusetts, he infers that it would be equally irresistible all over the country. The premise is too narrow for the conclusion. As a matter of fact, we know that public opinion is impotent when it stands in the way of what great corporations suppose to be their interests. Public opinion was of no moment to the perpetrators of Erie's rascalities. It was not public opinion but the Thurman law which brought the Union and Central Pacific Companies to a recognition of their obligations to the Government. Exactly how public opinion has asserted its influence in Massachusetts, Mr. ADAMS does not explain. We know, however, that in other States public opinion has never prevented the *creation of fictitious capital*, has never stopped arrangements of the most flagrant character, has never been acknowledged by the managers of powerful corporations as an arbiter whose dictates they should respect. They have, on the contrary, defied it with impunity. Indeed, we have but to glance at the attitude of the companies in this State in regard to discriminations and other abuses of which public opinion loudly complains, to perceive the folly of relying on anything less than positive law. A commission will have its uses as a supplement to a well-considered and stringent enactment, but to accept it as a substitute for law would be to leave the railroad companies absolute masters of the situation.

THE END OF A CONSPIRACY.

The Maine conspiracy has been baffled in all its parts. The final dictum of the Supreme Court not only covers the points heretofore raised by those who have appealed to it, but it expressly declares that the body which claimed to have elected SMITH as Governor is not a Legislature, and that the only Legislature in the State is that of which JOSEPH A. LOCKE and GEORGE E. WEEKS are the presiding officers. It is to be hoped that those tender-footed Democrats, in and out of Maine, who have been so solicitous that the majesty of the law shall be upheld at any and every expense will now possess their souls in peace. The highest judicial tribunal in the State has formally declared which of two bodies claiming to exercise Legislative powers is the rightful Legislature. It should not be forgotten that the expedient of submitting the questions involving the legality of GARCELON'S proceedings originated with the Hon. LOT M. MORRILL. Undoubtedly, there has been bad management, politically speaking, on both sides of this long contest; but, so far as the public knows, the credit of suggesting the solution of the difficulty, which has issued in a triumph for the people, belongs to the eminent gentleman above named. There was every reason to believe that that respect for judicial authority which strongly characterizes the people of New-England would not be appealed to in vain in behalf of the rightful Government of the State. The result has justified this expectation.

Never was a refuge of lies so cleanly swept away by a judicial opinion as this constructed by the Democratic conspirators, who have sought to accomplish in Maine the same species of crime which they attempted to commit in Oregon when the nefarious Grover-Cronin plot was set on foot at the instance of S. J. TILDEN'S managers in New-York. GARCELON propounded certain questions to the court, under date of Jan. 3. The answers to those questions amply *justified the claims of the members of the* Legislature, who appeared, on the face of the returns, to have been elected. It was evident that GARCELON had purposely procrastinated the submission of the queries to the court. The object was to gain time; and, when the answer came from the court and brushed away the tissue of falsehood and sophistry with which the plotters had enveloped their villainy, GARCELON pleaded that it was impossible for him to recall the summonses which had been improperly issued, and to issue other summonses to those who, according to the opinion of the court, were entitled to them. "It is too late!" was the exultant cry of the Democrats. They tacitly and, in many cases openly, admitted the conclusive character of the opinions of the court, but they felt certain that the triumph of their nefarious schemes was already assured by GARCELON'S refusal to undo what he had done. These acts of the Governor and Council are now declared by the court to have been "in violation of their legal and constitutional obligations and duties."

Furthermore, the plea of the Garcelon gang that nothing could be done by them to rectify what wrong had been done by the improper issuance of summonses is briefly and sharply disposed of by the court, which says that "the Governor and Council disregarded the opinion of this court, given in answer to the Governor's questions; that they omitted to revoke the summonses illegally issued to men who did not appear to be elected, or to issue summonses to men who did appear to be elected." This disposes forever of the pretense of the Democrats, that certificates illegally issued to members of the Legislature are beyond recall, even though their illegality has been established by the highest judicial authority.

GARCELON and his Council, after having assumed the functions of the Legislature in going behind the returns, in order to determine who "appeared" to be elected, pretended that, after all, whatever they had done that was not strictly equitable could be set right by the Legislature, to which all mooted questions of this kind were finally referable. To say nothing of the mockery of referring to a hostile body the claims of members-elect, it was then shown in these columns, and is now affirmed by the court, that the body constituted by GARCELON could not legally settle anything, except that it had no lawful existence. There never has been a quorum of either house of the so-called Smith Legislature present at any time, without counting men who could only appear there because GARCELON and his Council pursued methods which, in the language of the court, "were unconstitutional, illegal, and void."

The principles laid down in the answer of the court to GARCELON'S questions underlie this whole contest; the voice of the people, constitutionally expressed and ascertained, cannot be stifled because the errors of a few executive officers have made departures from ordinary forms. This doctrine was enunciated in the opinion of the court given in answer to GARCELON'S questions. It was reiterated when the Republican Legislature asked for an opinion as to its legal existence, and this fundamental principle reappears in the latest dictum of the court, in reply to the application of the so-called Smith Legislature. The Garcelon conspirators not only sought to stifle the voice of the people by assuming a function which did not belong to them, but, by interposing frivolous technical objections, to prevent the accomplishment of what the people had declared should be done. It should never be forgotten that the Democrats of Maine deliberately sought to defeat the will of the people, constitutionally expressed and ascertained at the ballot-box. History will record that this attempt was *persisted in in the face of repeated warnings from the highest judicial tribunal in* the State, and even after the specious pretext that they were only intent on observing the letter of the law had been brushed aside by high authority. Looking back now at the disingenuous pleadings of GARCELON, addressed to the people of the United States, it seems incredible that he or his fellow-conspirators could have believed that such a structure of fraud could endure. That it has disappeared is another evidence of the strength of a government of the people by the people.

IRISH DISTRESS AND IRISH FOLLY.

There can be no doubt as to the existence of dire distress among the people in certain districts of Ireland. Thousands are face to face with privation and misery, many are on the very verge of starvation, and may go over unless timely relief reaches them. The appeals that come from Dublin are uttered by those who have no interest in exaggerating the tale of wretchedness and suffering, and yet there has been an unusual lack of promptness and generosity in responding, especially in England and this country. There is an apparent want of sympathy and of readiness to contribute, which is not characteristic either of the English or the Americans. For this the Irish people have only themselves to blame and the misguiding leaders in whom they have so blindly and foolishly put their trust. The misdirected agitation which Mr. PARNELL and his coadjutors have raised over the land question has had the effect of alienating the sympathies of people whose sense of justice has been shocked, and in England it has to a large extent converted them into antipathies. The appeals for relief from actual distress are not easily dissociated from the demands by which they were preceded and the displays of violence that accompanied these, and it is not quite certain how far the one can be met without encouragement to the other. Mr. PARNELL'S visit to this country on his proclaimed and avowed mission has been a positive injury to his suffering countrymen, and in this respect it is but a continuation of his ill-starred work at home. The Irish people are suffering not only from the stress of inevitable poverty, but from the consequences of their own folly.

In saying this we are far from assuming that they have no grievance aside from a partial failure of their crops. They have in many cases been improvident in seasons of comparative plenty, and have not made that provision for a time of scarcity which they might have made, even with the unfavorable conditions with which they are beset. At the same time, there are evils of legislation which tend to the encouragement of improvidence, and which make them liable *to hardships that would not come in a* natural course of things. The laws of primogeniture and entail, the complicated settlements in which real estate may be entangled, and the difficulty and expense with which all transfers of that kind of property are beset everywhere in the United Kingdom, are evils of which the people have a right to complain. Reform in regard to the tenure of land is a legitimate subject for agitation, reasonably conducted and properly directed. It is a reform in which the people of England, no less than those of Ireland, have a concern, and one which can only be brought about by an agitation that shall compel some ruling party in British politics to do justice. But it is a very different agitation from that raised by Mr. PARNELL and his associates, in which regard for the authority of the Government, for the rights of land-owners, and for the restraints of salutary laws has been boldly cast aside, and the people have been lashed into a state of lawlessness bordering on rebellion. The proceedings of the Fall have not prepared the minds of the public for a generous outpouring to relieve the distress of the Winter.

It may be that, relegating the question of reform in the Land laws to its proper limits, and taking matters as they stood, there was sufficient ground for the demand for a reduction of rents. That this was so in many cases there can be no doubt. But a reduction of 15 or of 25 per cent. in rent, even if it had been general—that is to say, not only where it would have been equitable, but where it was neither required by justice nor circumstances of hardship—would not have prevented the distress that must needs follow a loss of crops in a country where the farmer has virtually no margin of surplus. A demand for reduction in many localities, and in isolated cases in all sections, may have been entirely just; but when the position was taken that there must be reduction in all cases or nothing at all would be paid, and yet the land should be held against its rightful owners by the help of bludgeons and bullets, the people placed themselves in the wrong, and lost the sympathy which they could not afford to alienate. In leading or driving them into this position, their leaders did them a grievous injury.

The actual distress and suffering in Ireland ought to be relieved by a generous charity that shall not inquire too curiously into the responsibility for its existence. There is a multitude of sins over which it may for the moment throw a veil, until the cry of anguish has been answered. But it should send its contributions through judicious channels, and not intrust them to those who have thus far done only harm to their own people. The cause of charity and that of land reform should be carefully distinguished. One belongs to the domain of sentiment, the other to that of reason. The distress of the Irish people and the folly of the Irish people must be dealt with apart, and one should not go unrelieved as a penalty for the other. It is right enough to consider the causes of the existing misery and the measures which should be taken to prevent, so far as possible, its recurrence, and when we come to that question we need have no sympathy with Mr. PARNELL or the people who have been so ready to follow his counsels.

THE FALL OF SAN MARINO.

In the last number of *Harper's Magazine* there is an account of the Republic of San Marino, the writer of which warmly praises the Government for its refusal to permit the establishment of a gambling-house in its territory. Monaco, as every one knows, yielded to the tempting offers of M. BLANC, and the gambling-house opened by that enterprising person, after the closing of the gambling-houses in Germany, has made the little Principality one of the most popular pleasure-resorts in Europe. It was pleasing to be told that the republican virtue of San Marino could not be corrupted, as has been the princely virtue of Monaco; but, unfortunately, San Marino has just changed its official mind, and the Government has announced that it has authorized the early opening of a gambling establishment that is to surpass in splendor the establishment at Monaco.

The reason for this decision is ostensibly the necessity of raising money to pay the interest on the national debt. San Marino has a national debt that is said to amount in round numbers to seven hundred dollars. When a nation of the size of France, for example, owes a large sum of money and fails to pay its interest, its creditors cannot help themselves. France could not be sold at Sheriff's sale, and its population could not be imprisoned for debt. But so small a State as San Marino cannot safely neglect to meet its debts. In the present instance, it is understood that the creditor of the Republic is a selfish and determined person who insists upon his rights. He threatens that if San Marino suffers the interest on her debt to remain in default and unpaid for thirty days he will foreclose and sell the whole Republic at auction. Now, it would be very unpleasant for a Republic to be openly sold to the highest bidder. The purchaser might turn it into a sheep pasture, or build a roof over it and convert it into a wood-shed, or in other ways humiliate its pride and put an end to its national existence. To pay the interest on the debt is an absolute necessity, and consequently the necessary money must be raised.

How to increase the revenue is a question that has occupied the unremitting attention of the best financial minds of the nation. The people strongly object to any increase of taxation. The Legislature might attempt to impose fresh taxes, but in order to collect them it would have to hire a dozen Italian soldiers, who would cost more than the amount of the taxes collected. Were the two Consuls to be provided with hand-organs and monkeys at national expense, they could visit the capitals of Europe and collect enough money to meet the interest; but republican pride opposes this expedient, and, moreover, it has been decided by the Supreme Court that the purchase of national monkeys would be unconstitutional. If the Republic had an uncle or a grandfather, or something of the kind, who could be trusted to leave it a handsome legacy in his will, all might yet be well; but, unfortunately, there is no such person. Of course, it would be quite possible to shovel San Marino into carts and remove it to some other locality, but this would cost money, and, besides, the lien of the creditor upon the soil and houses *of San Marino would still hold good.* In these circumstances, San Marino, urged by the necessity of raising money, has accepted an offer from a joint-stock gambling company, and sold its virtue for a large yearly rent.

The new company intends to make improvements which will make San Marino unrecognizable. It has always been a very modest and frugal Republic. Its road, designed originally to meet the requirements of donkeys, has never been graded so as to accommodate carriages, and in consequence few tourists have ever visited it. It has a church and a public building, but neither of them is in any way remarkable. The Army has been neatly dressed, but as one of the Army is always off duty when the other is on duty, only one uniform and one set of equipments are needed. The Supreme Court receives no salary, being allowed in place thereof to keep an orange stand in front of the church, and the two Consuls are each presented, in lieu of salary, with a pair of shoes, which they are expected to wear on state occasions, in order to confer dignity on their office. The Republic is saved the expense of a postal and telegraph service, for inasmuch as a citizen residing on the northern border can converse with another citizen residing on the southern border without materially raising his voice, it is felt that telegraphs and post offices are unnecessary.

Everything will be changed when the new company opens its gambling-house. The road leading up to the front gate of San Marino will be graded and macadamized, and the Republic will be surrounded with a neat wire fence. A gorgeous casino will cover the southern half of the Republic, and the rest of it will be protected from the sun by a canvas canopy. The Army will be increased to an effective force of six men, not for purposes of war, but merely as a spectacular feature. It is said that a croquet ground will be laid out, but it is difficult to see how the game can be played with any comfort, since the balls will constantly be knocked over into Italy, whence they cannot be recovered without prolonged diplomatic correspondence. It remains to be seen whether, if a gambler stands on Italian territory when he places his stakes on a San Marino gambling-table, he will be amenable to Italian laws. Probably the matter will be made the subject of a special treaty between the Kingdom and the Republic, since it is impossible that a large crowd can surround the table without making serious encroachment on the Italian territory.

Aside from the deplorable moral consequences of opening a new gambling-house, the conversion of San Marino into a popular resort is greatly to be deprecated. The primitive simplicity of the Republic will vanish when it becomes rich and crowded with foreign visitors. The entire population will live on the rent paid by the gambling company, and the Consuls, wearing fashionable clothes, will ape the airs of reigning monarchs. Italy ought to interfere in the matter and buy San Marino without delay, but Italy will probably reflect that as no one can reach the Republic except through Italian territory, the Italian railways and hotels will profit by the sins of San Marino without incurring the guilt thereof.

It is a suspicious circumstance that the advocates of the proposition to give the Post Office Department unlimited power to extend the "star" service were not willing to trust their bill to the House in Committee of the Whole the other day. As the bill declaring all public highways to be post-routes, and authorizing the Postmaster-General to put mail service on such lines, involves an additional expenditure of money, it was liable to be carried into the Committee of the Whole. Seeing this, the friends of the measure withdrew it. Yesterday they again brought forward their bill, amended by the omission of the clause giving this *broad license to the Post Office Department.* But the vote on the preliminary progress of the amended bill is not encouraging to the friends of economy. It is evident that in the House, at least, there is a disposition to perpetuate the system which has so largely increased the expenses of the postal service. This may be explained by the fact that Congressmen know that they may procure from accommodating officers in the Post Office Department extensions of mail service, not demanded by the people, which would not be countenanced by Congress. Like the River and Harbor Appropriation bill, the "star" service furnishes an omnibus for the safe carriage of numerous jobs of individual Congressmen. It is time that Congress set an impassable limit to this particular species of expenditure.

The present year is to be celebrated in Russia as completing the first 25 years of the Czar's reign, and the industrial exhibition which is to be held at Moscow in the coming May will doubtless be as popular with the Russians as even that of 1872. But such an anniversary brings with it an ominous suggestion of the grim old proverb, "Evil awaits the Czar of 25 years," which Russian history has so strangely verified. IVAN the Terrible's first 25 years were brilliantly successful, but after 1558 came the loss of all his Western conquests, the successive deaths of three wives, the murder of his son and heir, and the fastening of a frightful disease upon himself. PETER the Great's Turkish reverses, and the deplorable death of his son ALEXIS, came after the twenty-fifth year of his reign. The twenty-sixth of ALEXANDER I.'s ravaged St. Petersburg with a fearful inundation, while a formidable plot against himself and his own death came a year later. In the twenty-sixth year of NICHOLAS began the intrigues which led to the Crimean war; and the present Czar, now just about to pass the perilous limit, sees his wife dying by inches, his throne undermined by rebellion, and a foreign war looming on the horizon.

The coming February will be an odd month in several respects. It will have in the first place an odd number of days, owing to its leap-year distinction. It will have an odd number of Sundays—five—which is very odd for the shortest month of the year—and one of the Sundays will be WASHINGTON'S birthday. It will begin on Sunday and end on Sunday, which is also odd. The five Sundays correspond in date with the five Sundays in the following August, which is odd again. It is said that no one now living will ever see another February so odd; nor will their children, nor their children's children—sufficient in itself to make the month interesting. Many old superstitions are associated with the month, which originally had 29 days among the Romans in an ordinary year. When the Roman Senate, however, decreed that the eighth month should be named after the Emperor AUGUSTUS, one day was taken from February and bestowed on August, giving it 31 days, in order that it might not be inferior to July, called after JULIUS CÆSAR. February was the month of purification, from *februum*, during which the Lupercalia, or Februalia, were celebrated, the festival beginning the 15th and celebrated annually. Lupercalus, or Februus, was the god of fertility, whose appropriate sacrifices were dogs and goats. After the offering, two youths, patricians, were conducted to the altar, when one of the priests touched their foreheads with a sword dipped in the blood of the victims, and another priest washed off the stain with wool soaked in milk. Then the priests sat down to a feast, at which wine was plentifully furnished. *After rising from the board, they cut* the skins of the sacrificed goats in pieces, and covered, with some of these, parts of their bodies, in imitation of the deity, represented as half clad in goat-skins. With the other pieces, inverted into thongs, they ran through the streets, striking everybody they met, particularly women, who courted the blow, from the belief that it averted sterility and the pains of travail. The ceremonies of the festival were supposed to symbolize the purification of the people. If it had any such power, the revival of the Lupercalia would be advisable here, where political sins are grievous and innumerable. To purify New-York materially and morally, the Lupercalia would need to be extended throughout the year.

DR. EMIL HOLUB, the Bohemian African explorer, who is, or was lately, resting in London previous to returning to his home in Prague, is one of the most energetic and courageous of the scientific men devoted to discoveries on the dark continent. While others have gone at the head of large expeditions supported by Governments or wealthy societies, he has had only two or three followers and no external aid. For seven or eight years he has been exploring the country north and south of the Zambesi, alternating his journeys with months of sojourn in the diamond fields, practicing medicine to procure means for other expeditions. He has lived among the Bechuanas, the Marutsi, the Mtubela, the Hottentots, and other tribes; studied their habits closely, and gained their good-will and confidence by curing their diseases. During his third and last journey he accurately surveyed the region from the diamond fields to the Zambesi, and that river also from its junction with the Chobe to the Barotse district. His map of the Zambesi, on a large scale, shows every rapid, creek, and island in its course, and was made by compass observations, taken each 300 yards, while the distances, more than 2,000 miles, were determined by stepping, every step being counted as a 21 inches walk. This had become necessary from the loss of his Nautical Almanac and the consequent uncertainness of his instruments. The Doctor reached Mucheshe Antinge very tired and quite ill, but still plucky, and hopeful of meeting the assistant sent coming out at Loanda. But fever supervened, and his best canoe containing all his compositor, and still worse, his quinine, was sunk in a rapid. He pushed on nevertheless; but, at the Mambwe, exhausted nature, unassisted, gave way, and he was carried back delirious by his native servants, to lie ill for 36 weary, painful months. Even then he was not idle. He ordered his servants to bear him about in a litter, and, directing them constantly, collected any quantity of plants, insects—his beetles alone number 13,000 specimens—birds, weapons, and made many drawings which are invaluable. HOLUB is one of the most intrepid and unconquerable of explorers, and anticipates, of course, an early return to the scene of his labors and sufferings. Nothing cures, or can cure, a true explorer of his enterprise and enthusiasm but death.

It has been sometimes believed that a legal contest had become somewhat obsolete in preparing for a divorce in Indiana; in fact, that one party or the other often has it pretty much all his or her own way, and in the expressive language of the turf, has merely to "walk over the track." If this is the rule, a recent case must have been the exception. A husband who had doubtless had many fierce encounters with his wife in the domestic circle, appealed to the law for a settlement of their difficulties. This proved to be merely a transfer of the seat of war. When he sought a divorce, she, instead of capitulating or fighting on the defensive, assumed the aggressive by applying for a divorce from him. Whatever may have been the relative strength of the contestants in the home circle, the wife appeared to the best advantage in court. Her petition was granted while his was dismissed. He did not, however, yield here, but moved for a new trial, and fortified his position with 21 grounds. The eighteenth ground was that the court below had erred not only in smoking itself during the trial, but also in allowing the attorneys and others to indulge in the same luxury. But the Supreme Court soon disposed of this objection, by remarking that it did not appear that the husband had noted an exception to the smoking at the time, and did not show that it had had any injurious effect upon him. The nineteenth exception was that the Judge below had "erred in sleeping or sitting with his eyes closed" during the trial. The appellate tribunal soon pointed out the weakness of this "very vague and indefinite" reason for a new trial. In the first place, said the court, "if the appellant, who was personally present at the trial, was unable to determine whether the Judge was really asleep or only had his eyes closed, how are we to determine?" Moreover, if the appellant "had reason to suppose the Judge was indulging in a gentle doze, he should have suspended his reading or awakened the Judge." Then, again, much of the evidence was immaterial and irrelevant, and during the reading of this the Judge might have taken a legal nap. Finally, said the court, "we might generally conclude that the Judge but imitated the example of many of the profoundest thinkers and most *distinguished Judges, and closed his eyes that he* might hear the more accurately, and more fully comprehend what he heard." On each and all of the 21 exceptions the decision was against the husband, who was thus deprived of the privilege of having another legal encounter with his wife.

Trying to make diamonds will be—at least until they have been made—an interesting subject to the majority of men. The late effort of JAMES MACTEAR, of Glasgow, to produce diamonds artificially is by no means the first that has been made. The earliest experiments of any importance were recent, however—only 52 years since. LAVOUR and GANNAL, the French chemists, thus presented pure pieces of crystallized carbon to the Academy of Sciences, and caused thereby the greatest excitement, everybody supposing that the secret of making diamonds had been discovered. The result proved that the small crystals, although transparent, brilliant, and harder than quartz, would neither scintillate nor refract rays of light sufficiently to render them valuable. Notwithstanding that they were composed of the same material as diamonds, they had little beauty. They were submitted to the heat-test, as MACTEAR'S crystals were, but like his, they underwent no perceptible change. Still, only natural diamonds would scratch them. CHAMPIGNY, director of a celebrated diamond firm in Paris, pronounced them genuine, whereupon followed the great diamond panic (1828,) which affected the whole commercial globe, and which, doubtless, some of our readers remember. A few years later the French savant, DEBIERNE, again startled the world by announcing that he had produced artificial diamonds. His method was to fix a cylinder of pure carbon to the positive pole of a weak Dunleil pile, and a platinum wire to the negative pole, and then to plunge both poles into acidulated water. In two months the negative pole was covered with a black coating, which was sent to GAUDIN (MARC ANTOINE) to be tested on hard stones. Mixed with a little oil, the black particles would polish rubies, and as the diamond alone will do this, GAUDIN did not hesitate to declare the particles diamond-dust, a conclusion generally accepted at the time by men of science. The question, "Can diamonds be made artificially?" is still open, and many chemists feel sure that it will one day be answered in the affirmative by experiments absolutely successful. They have already been produced in material, though not in properties. It is thought that these may be obtained by cutting the crystals differently from what they are now cut. Such a discovery would not be much more remarkable than the discovery made by ENGUERER (1456) in preshaping facets, and perfected by COSTAN in making planes on the Koh-i-noor. The effect of such a discovery may be conjectured by reference to the diamond panic of 1829. It would revolutionize values, and create a prodigious commotion in both hemispheres; but the commotion would abate in due time, and good would unquestionably result. The value of all the diamonds in royal treasuries, in mercantile, titled, and private hands, and elsewhere, is stupendous. It has been estimated at five millions, or, according to the French numeration, five thousand million of dollars. To destroy capital to that amount would upset for a time the world's commerce, were the capital active. But the capital locked up in diamonds is wholly dormant.

FAMINE AND POLITICS IN IRELAND.

THE RELIEF FUNDS—SOME OF MR. PARNELL'S STATEMENTS CONTRADICTED.

LONDON, Jan. 28.—The fund instituted by the Duchess of Marlborough for the relief of Irish distress now amounts to £29,300.

It is stated that the Nationalists of County *Mayo, Ireland, have decided to start Michael* Davitt and Thomas Brennan, now under indictment for sedition, as candidates of the county at the approaching general election for seats in the House of Commons, on the understanding that if elected they shall abstain from taking their seats. The prospect of their election is considered to be good.

DUBLIN, Jan. 28.—The following, from the Mansion House Committee, explains itself: "The statement reported in an Irish newspaper to have been made at a meeting at Buffalo, N. Y., on Sunday, that defaulters in the payment of rent are excluded from Mansion House relief, was considered at a public meeting of this committee. The committee desires to say that this statement, if made, is totally without foundation, and that it is impossible to conceive how it could have been uttered. Real distress is the only condition for obtaining assistance from this committee; it acts exclusively through local organizations, which include clergymen and representative laymen of all denominations and opinions, rendering impossible the alleged distinction between sufferers. This committee meets three times a week, and is composed of representative men of all shades of opinion, whose sole anxiety is to keep their fellow-countrymen from perishing of hunger. The meetings of this committee are open to the press. Also, with reference to a statement alleged to have been made at Rochester, N. Y., it is hardly necessary to say that no individual newspaper was privy to the organization of this fund, and that it is utterly incorrect to say that any outsider paid for the telegrammes sent by this committee. The first telegram the committee itself paid for. Subsequent telegrams (and this one) were sent free through the New-York Associated Press, by the generosity of the Anglo-American Telegraph Company. This committee has dispensed already over £10,000 in the relief of urgent cases."

COLLEGE HONORS CONFERRED.

EASTON, Penn., Jan. 28.—At a meeting of the Trustees of Lafayette College to-day, the degree of LL. D. was conferred upon the Hon. Henry Green, of the Supreme Court of Pennsylvania, and the Rev. Alonzo Linn, Vice-President of Washington College, Pennsylvania.

IN MEMORY OF CHANDLER

CONGRESSIONAL EULOGIES ON HIS LIFE AND SERVICES.

AN IMPRESSIVE DAY IN THE SENATE—ELOQUENT TRIBUTES OF RESPECT DELIVERED BY MESSRS. FERRY, BALDWIN, BLAINE, ANTHONY, LOGAN, AND OTHERS—THE DEAD SENATOR ALSO EULOGIZED IN THE HOUSE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—The session of the Senate to-day was devoted to the delivery of eulogies upon the life, character, and public services of the late Senator Zachariah Chandler. The galleries were crowded with listeners, a great many of whom were ladies. A row of front seats had been reserved for those who might come from the White House, and one of them was occupied by Mrs. Hayes. Near her were the President's private secretary, Mr. Rogers, and several ladies who had accompanied her. In the diplomatic gallery sat Secretary Evarts, Baron Blanc, Minister from Italy; the Minister from Denmark, Secretary Bartlett, of the Chinese legation; Mme. Outrey, the wife of the French Minister, and other persons connected with the foreign Legations. Upon the floor of the chamber were many members of the House. On one of the sofas sat Secretary Schurz, and not far away stood the handsome Governor of Utah, Eli H. Murray, who has just been confirmed by the Senate. In his seat for the first time this session was Senator Blaine, fresh from victory over the Fusion plotters of his State. He had come to offer his tribute to the memory of the dead Senator. He was warmly welcomed on both sides of the chamber, and not long before adjournment he was seen on the Democratic side in close conversation with Gen. Gordon. At the same time Mr. Hoar was in consultation with Mr. Bayard at the seat of the latter, and Mr. Conkling sat on the Democratic side fraternizing with David Davis.

The Republican Senators were in their seats, and when the speaking began at the conclusion of the reading of the Journal, a score of Democratic Senators were attentive listeners. When an hour had passed nearly all of the seats on the Democratic side were empty, while the sofas for visitors were fully occupied, and many chairs had been brought in from the cloak rooms for the accommodation of prominent members of the House. The Senate was very quiet throughout the memorial services, from the impressive opening sentences of Mr. Ferry to the closing words of Mr. Baldwin.

Mr. Ferry reviewed at some length the commercial and political career of Mr. Chandler, and paid a warm tribute to his patriotism, honesty, courage, and clearness of mental vision. His action in Congress before and during the war, his ability to see the true result of the last Presidential election, and his memorable philippic on treason, delivered during the extra session of Congress, were the subjects of effective passages, and his political course and private character were praised in vigorous language.

Mr. Anthony was the only speaker who used no manuscript. In a polished and elaborate address, he brought out the salient characteristics of the man, praised his loyalty to the party which he had chosen, and vividly described his last hours.

The only eulogy pronounced by a Democrat was that of Mr. Bayard, who began by alluding to the wide and decided differences in the political opinions of himself and Mr. Chandler. Of the latter's political views he would not speak, for he could not do so approvingly; but Mr. Chandler had traits and qualities which all men might admire and respect. He was manly, impulsive and outspoken, sincere and generous; an open and not implacable foe, a steadfast and courageous friend. Sagacious and practical, he effectively advocated views of whose correctness he was firmly convinced. On no occasion had he been known to use his official position for his own pecuniary gain, directly or indirectly. This would be accorded to him by his bitterest political foe. He was free-handed and open-hearted, he kept his word, he despised a coward, and loathed a hypocrite. The speaker was too near Mr. Chandler's political life to express positive judgment upon it, and jealousy memorialized him as influential a character. Time would mellow and reflection soften the asperities and animosities which might obscure present judgments.

Mr. Hamlin bore testimony to the sincerity of the dead Senator's convictions and his indomitable courage in supporting them. He traced the course of his friendship for him from the time when he knew him as a merchant; then as a leader of the Whig Party; then as one of the men under whose guidance the Republican Party was founded, to his career in the Senate.

Mr. Blaine referred to Mr. Chandler as the son of a Senator who had given Webster to Massachusetts, Chase to Ohio, Dix to New-York, and Greeley to journalism. He had gone West with physical and mental qualities such as must win success, and had gained wealth and great influence. He had come to the Senate like a fresh division to reinforce an army engaged in a hand-to-hand fight, and Mr. Hamlin was the only one of his early companions now occupying a seat in that body. When the Republicans became the majority they were unfitted for defensive tactics. By his defiant courage, zeal, vigilance, patriotism, faith in the future, and readiness to do, dare, and endure, he attained a national reputation. He grew intellectually. Coming without parliamentary training, he soon became a terrible and fierce antagonist. "Here and now" was his motto. He had faults, but no mean ones. He never ground the face of the poor. He was a true friend, a hard hitter, and an honest hater.

Mr. Logan spoke of Mr. Chandler as one by nature a leader and controller of men. With great energy, boldness, courage and capacity for action, he was true to his friends, and he never asked quarter from his enemies. Mr. Logan described the last day of Mr. Chandler's life, during a great part of which he was with him.

Mr. Morrill reviewed Mr. Chandler's public services, and spoke of his intense loyalty to the Republic. He would have been ashamed of a weak, spineless, and rickety republic of the Spanish-American pattern, with no iron in its blood, but was proud of that which is great both in peace and war, and which has shown itself worthy to protect and rule, with an imperishable vitality, the American continent. His opinions, based on full and trustworthy convictions, was stoutly held and did not ebb and flow with every change of the moon. When he spoke he had something to say and his words were so nearly and straightforward, that neither friend nor foe could deny their force or misinterpret their meaning.

Mr. Blair described Mr. Chandler as a man who strongly opposed what was wrong. He was radical against the wrong, but would rescue the wrong-doer. He had a tender heart for every part of the country and tears for every form of sickness. He was partisan, and a man who is not is without convictions or false to them.

Mr. Cameron of Pennsylvania read two pages of manuscript in order to place upon record his feelings toward one with whom he had served in the Cabinet and Senate, and who, in all relations of life, had been his friend.

The last eulogy was pronounced by Mr. Baldwin, the successor of Mr. Chandler, who spoke of him as a friend for 40 years, a man who made no compromise of principle, who would have no success not attained by industry and integrity, whose career was spotless, who was devoted to the interests of the Northwest, and who would have been his State's first choice for the highest place in the nation's gift had his life been spared.

After the adoption of the pending resolution, the Senate adjourned. Eulogies were also pronounced in the House by Messrs. Newberry, Hubbard, Conger, and Burrows, of Michigan; Williams, of Wisconsin, and several others.

THE CUBAN INSURGENTS.

HAVANA, Jan. 24.—The insurrection remains localized in the jurisdictions of Santiago de Cuba and Baracoa, and Brig.-Gen. Pando has taken command of the forces operating in the latter jurisdiction. It is asserted that the ex-chief Peralta and men, who lately surrendered, have offered to attack Chief Guillermon in his hiding-place. If this turns out to be true, it will be a serious lesson for the insurgents still under arms.

TROY'S STRIKING LAUNDRESSES.

TROY, N. Y., Jan. 28.—The strike among the collar, cuff, and shirt sewing and laundry operatives is spreading. This afternoon 1,200 of these persons were out. Tim & Co., who employed men to-day in place of the strikers, had their establishment besieged by a crowd of 500 girls and their sympathizers. The men, when leaving work, were pelted with mud and pondered the loss of dresses and skirts. Mr. Tim, who is an excitable man, drew a revolver and ordered the girls away. The arrival of Police prevented further trouble. The manufacturers have held a meeting, at which it was unanimously determined to resist the demand for an advance, which was characterized as exorbitant and unwarranted by the condition of the trade. They agreed to offer employment to all comers at one-half the advance demanded by the strikers. The offer was refused.

SIR KNIGHTS IN THE ACADEMY.

THE RECEPTION OF PALESTINE COMMANDERY—A TREMENDOUS CRUSH AND A GREAT SUCCESS—VISITORS FROM NEIGHBORING CITIES.

Palestine Commandery, of the Order of Knights Templar, held its grand reception and annual festival in the Academy of Music last evening. It was a brilliantly successful affair. The Academy was crowded to the last degree. This commandery is one of the largest and most flourishing of the order in the United States, and is looked upon as the banner commandery. It was organized in 1848, and boasts to-day a membership of nearly 300. With so large a roll, and as part of an order which numbers in all about 60,000 members, it was to be expected that the reception last evening would be numerously attended, and the expectation was not disappointed. In addition to a full muster of the commandery, the Grand Commandery of the State was represented by its principal officers, and St. John's Commandery, of Pennsylvania, attended in a body. The Detroit Commandery No. 1, of Detroit, was expected to be represented by the majority of its members, but by some unfortunate delay on the road they had not arrived up to a late hour. A few, however, who had been fortunate enough to take an earlier train were present, and there were many visitors from other States. All the arrangements for the event were excellent. The programmes, the order of dancing, the box lists, press tickets, and tickets of admission were models of tasteful design and workmanship; the decorations of the Academy were excellent, the special feature being a large Latin cross surmounted by a star in gas jets over the stage. Across the arms of the cross was the word "Palestine," on the lower standard the number "18," which is the number of the commandery. The star was emblematic of the Star in the East. Grafulla's Seventh Regiment Band furnished the music. The opening ceremony of the evening began at 9:30, at which hour the Academy seemed already as full as it could hold. This was the reception of the Grand Commandery of the State of New-York. In full uniform and all their glittering regalia, the Knights and officers of Palestine Commandery formed in open order, sword in hand, in the Academy, to receive their visitors. At the head was Eminent Sir G. W. Skellen, Commander; beside him were the following officers: Horace H. Brockway, G.; Thomas B. Rand, C. B.; John F. Baldwin, E. P.; Wayne Litzenberg, S. W.; J. W. Bowden, M. D., J. W.; William R. Carr, Treasurer; William Johnston, Jr., Recorder; James A. Rich, S. B.; Chauncey Secor, Standard Bearer; William H. Chapman, Warder; Wallace B. Lane, G. F. G.; George Ott, Jr., S. G.; W. L. McDermut, T. G.; Frederick G. Gedney, Judge Advocate; Tunis H. Patterson, Quartermaster; Samuel Hemingway, M. D., Musical Director; John H. Clark, C. of G.

The order for reception being taken, the officers of the Grand Commandery of the State entered as follows: R. E. Sir Charles O. Roome, P. G. C.; George Walgrove, G. C.; Robert M. Coy, Recorder; Peter Forrester, G. S. B.; Albert G. Goodall, G. S. B.; Oliver G. Brady, G. W.; John A. Lefferts, Marshal. Commander Skellen, of Palestine Commandery, gave the welcome, and Commander Walgrove responded on behalf of the Grand Commandery. This being done, the Grand Commandery men fell in behind, and assisted in the reception of St. John's Commandery, of Philadelphia, which immediately followed in the same way. This commandery was represented by 45 Knights and the following officers of the Grand Commandery of the State and of St. John's: J. P. S. Gobin, Grand Commander of the State; G. W. Kendrick, Grand Generalissimo of the Grand Commandery; Jeremiah L. Hutchinson, Past Grand Commander; Charles E. Laing, Past Commander of St. John's Commandery, and J. W. Cooper, Captain-General of the same. Commander Skellen welcomed them; Commander Gobin responded on behalf of the State, and Past Commander Laing for St. John's Commandery. The ceremony being over, the visitors were presented in a body to the vast audience by Commander Skellen, and were greeted with warm applause. Among the other visiting officers present were: Peter Verhoeven, Commander of Ivanhoe Commandery; C. E. Parvin, Commander of South Boston Commandery; E. P. Chapin, Commander of the Springfield (Mass.) Commandery; J. F. Bailey, P. E. C., Sub-marshal of the Great Priory of England, and John E. Baldwin and George Van Vliet, local Commanders. After the reception, the Knights of Palestine Commandery went through their elaborate drill, which includes evolutions at which the author of "Upton's Tactics" would stand aghast. The audience were greatly delighted, and applauded every movement with enthusiasm. The dancing followed the drill. Among the occupants of the boxes were Mr. and Mrs. Robert C. Brown; Sheldon B. Shaw; Mr. and Mrs. Horace H. Brockway, Miss Ida Brockway, Mrs. A. C. Brockway; P. M. Wall, T. J. Paine, Uriah Welch, Mr. and Mrs. Thomas B. Rand, John H. Rand, Mrs. Charles Roome, Mrs. T. S. Brennan, Mr. and Mrs. James A. Rich, Mrs. T. H. Mumford, Mrs. C. E. Pierce, Mrs. M. Glover, Mrs. J. A. Striker, Mrs. P. B. Low, Mrs. G. W. Skellen, E. L. Merrifield, A. Hance, William G. Stahlnecker, W. D. Garrison, O. W. Buckingham, William Johnston, Jr., T. C. Eastman, James W. Pringle, A. D. Sterling, Mitchell Halliday, James W. Bell, C. F. Woodworth, William Ottman, George Ott, Jr., John M. Amory, William R. Carr, John M. Burt, William H. Chapman, Frederick G. Gedney, J. M. Harned, William Coverly, J. H. Woods, J. V. B. Green, J. R. Taylor, M. D., J. P. Lockwood, Dr. J. H. Sweet, E. C. Harwood, John P. Elder, William R. Carr, C. J. Conhoven, W. B. Lane, John Scott, J. B. Eakins, E. Imes, H. Vassel, J. R. Clark, Alexander Williams, J. H. Sanford, D. R. Morrison, G. H. Shattuck, B. C. Sanford, E. Mascord, J. H. Hobert, W. H. Jessup, J. G. M. Murray, Dr. J. W. Worth, Samuel Strayler, C. Merritt, F. D. Clapp, S. Hemmingway, C. C. Reed, E. B. Woodward, J. H. Fulis, C. D. Berline, S. Hemmingway.

THE CHESS PLAYERS.

FORMING A NEW ORGANIZATION AND ADOPTING RULES.

The fifth American Chess Congress met yesterday afternoon, at No. 60 East Fourteenth-street, where its chess tournament has been held, and elected as temporary Chairman ex-Gov. Minor, of Connecticut. Most of the contestants in the tournament were present. The congress resolved itself into a new organization, and adopted the name of the Chess Association of the United States of America, and elected the following-named officers: President—Col. John R. Fellows; Secretary—Henry O. Allen; Treasurer—Commander J. D. Beazley. The next business of the association was the drafting and adopting of a constitution. It states that the objects of the association are to convoke and organize national assemblies of chess players, and to extend the knowledge of the game of chess, and promote its dignity in this country. The elected officers of the association shall be its Executive Committee, who are clothed with power to call meetings of the association, and to appoint subordinate committees to make arrangements for, and take charge of, tournaments. The President shall, within 20 days after his election, appoint 13 Vice-Presidents, to continue in office during his term.

A code of rules to govern the game of chess as it shall be played by the association and at its tournaments, was then drafted and adopted after considerable debate. The rules are, in the main, the same as those observed by chess players in Europe and in this country, but with a few important changes, among which are the following: The player having the first move must play with the white men. J'adoube, I adjust, or words to that effect, shall not protect a player from the penalties, unless the man or men obviously need adjustment and unless the notification be distinctly made before the man or men be touched. General endings are to be determined by the umpire as to whether the 50 moves shall be counted or not before its being declared a draw, or they shall submit to the umpire the question whether the game is a draw or not. A pawn, on entering the royal line, must immediately be exchanged for any piece, except a king. In playing chess by correspondence, the player shall be bound by the move in dispatches, and not by that which he makes on the board.

The meeting then adjourned. This afternoon and to-morrow, McKenzie and Grundy will play off the tie between them for the first prize.

ANTIQUATED WAR VESSELS

OUR WORTHLESS NAVAL FORCES.

A BILL AND A REPORT FROM THE HOUSE NAVAL COMMITTEE—A NEW NAVY REQUIRED—PROPOSED CHANGES IN LAW WITH A VIEW TO ADDING IMPROVED SHIPS TO THE SERVICE.

WASHINGTON, Jan. 28.—Representative Harris, of Massachusetts, in behalf of the House Naval Committee, to whom was referred the bill providing for the establishment of a Board of Assistants for the Navy of the United States, to-day reported to the full committee a substitute, which was unanimously adopted, and will be presented to the House to-morrow. Representative Harris's bill authorizes the Secretary of the Navy to cause an account to be taken of the stores and supplies belonging to the Navy Department, and to cause an appraisement of their value to be made by boards of officers to be designated by the Secretary, and all such stores as are found unserviceable are to be condemned and sold, and the proceeds paid into the Treasury and placed to the credit of the permanent construction fund. It is also to be the duty of the Secretary to cause to be examined, by competent boards of officers, all vessels not in actual service at sea, and vessels at sea, as soon as they shall return to any naval station, the said boards to report what vessels are unfit for service, or if any are unfinished in any navy-yard which cannot be finished without great and disproportionate expense, it is to be the duty of the Secretary, if he concur in their report, to strike the names of such vessels from the Navy Register and withdraw them from the Navy. The bill provides for the sale of such vessels. The bill also provides for the establishment of a fund, to be known as the permanent construction fund, which is to comprise the appropriations made from time to time by Congress and the proceeds arising from the sale of old or condemned vessels, materials, stores, and supplies, and to be used by the Secretary of the Navy in the construction, armament, and equipment of new vessels, and for no other purpose. The Secretary is not to contract to spend during any one fiscal year a greater sum than the amount standing to the credit of the fund during that year, including additions from the sale of vessels, materials, stores, and supplies, and the balance of the previous year, if any; but in the construction, armament, or equipment of new vessels the Secretary may make use of any materials, stores, or supplies on hand which, in his opinion, will not probably be required in the repair of other vessels, their armament, or equipment, but not otherwise. No vessel belonging to the Navy shall be finished or repaired where the estimated cost of its completion or repair exceeds 40 per cent of the cost of a new vessel of the same size and model, exclusive of the armament, unless a board of officers selected by the Secretary recommends such completion and repair, in which case the cost is to be borne by the permanent construction fund. It is to be the duty of the Secretary to report annually to Congress the proceeds of all sales of vessels and materials, and also all expenditures made or authorized to be made from the said fund, and to state what vessels have been built, or authorized to be built. The bill authorizes the Secretary to accept models, plans, &c., for vessels, engines, machinery, armaments, &c., from any and all sources, and to determine what sum shall be paid for the same.

A report, written by Representative Harris, to accompany the bill, was also unanimously adopted, and will be presented to the House. It sets forth the results of a careful investigation made by the committee to ascertain the present condition of each vessel of the Navy. The report says: "Small as the number of our naval vessels is as compared with the other navies of the world, it is infinitely smaller in real fighting power; and it is time for Congress and the country to face the fact and provide the remedy. * * * The information here presented may be unwelcome and humiliating, but national honor and safety alike demand that the plain truth be told, to the end that the people may be able to judge whether Congress has done, or is doing, its duty in providing for the national defense and maintaining the honor of the American name." The report then proceeds to narrate the dates and methods of construction and the present condition of all the steam vessels of the Navy. It is found that although the five "first rates" now in the register—namely, the Colorado, Franklin, Minnesota, Niagara, and Wabash—were originally the equals of any of their class in the world, they must now be classed as obsolete and practically out of use as vessels of war. The report says: "It is probable that they might perform some service in case of necessity, but they hardly could be relied upon as cruising ships without the expenditure of large sums for new boilers, machinery, &c., and for general repairs. It is apparent that these vessels, classed as the first rates of the Navy, represent very little of naval power, and, in case of war, offensive or defensive, would take a very subordinate place. We class them as non-combatants." Of the 27 "second rates" three, namely, the Connecticut and Pennsylvania at Boston, and the Java at New-York, are unfinished on the stocks, rotten and worthless; seven are "laid up in ordinary, unfit for further use, and probably all unworthy of repair;" two are undergoing repairs, three await repairs, one is on the stocks unfinished, but worthy of completion; one is a mere store hulk; one is disabled on account of yellow fever, and only nine out of the whole number of 27 are now in condition for service. Of the 20 third-rates, the Minnesota, in the Register, six are found to be "laid up in ordinary, worthless for naval purposes," and "should be sold or broken up to save the expense of their care;" six are deemed worthy of repair and are either undergoing or awaiting repairs; two are "antiquated paddle-wheel steamers of obsolete type, expensive in use, and of little, if any, value for strictly naval purposes," and the remaining 15 are fit for service. The six "fourth-rate" steamers are declared to be "of really no account as vessels of war. They are armed only with howitzers and could make small resistance against superior force." The Register gives the names of 24 iron-clad vessels belonging to the Navy. The committee say in regard to them that one (the Roanoke) has long since been considered worthless; three—the Colossus, Massachusetts, and Oregon—are rotten on the stocks at New-York, Portsmouth, and Boston, and not worth launching; the only four double-turreted iron-clads on the list that were ever finished, and the largest of the single-turreted iron-clads, are now awaiting appropriations by Congress to complete their rebuilding of iron under existing contracts; the Dictator, now at League Island, requires extensive repairs, and the remaining 14 are reported to be in condition for effective service; but they are all "fourth rates" and carry only two guns each—all smooth-bores of 15-inch caliber.

The committee remarks with emphasis that "there is not a single rifled gun on our iron-clad fleet afloat." After speaking of the tugs and wooden vessels of the Navy, which are generally described as worthless, the report says: "In the opinion of the committee the time has arrived when it is a national duty to begin the construction of a new Navy. In any future wars with European nations we must fight upon the sea or nowhere. The committee do not recommend the expenditure of large sums with a view of perfecting such a Navy this year or the next, but to commence the construction of three or four vessels a year, and to keep constantly employed a regular force of skilled employes; to employ the best skill in naval architecture, in engineering, and gunnery, and to settle upon the best systems and methods. Before commencing upon the new Navy, the committee recommend a thorough overhauling and weeding out and sale of all the vessels, materials, stores, and armaments which are superannuated and practically useless. With these reforms accomplished, and a permanent fund established, to be annually supplied by liberal appropriations by Congress, to be used only as contemplated by the accompanying bill, the committee think the first and important step in the direction of an efficient Navy will have been accomplished."

ARMY AND NAVY NOTES.

Rear-Admiral T. H. Patterson, commanding the United States Naval force on the Asiatic Station, reports his arrival on the Richmond at Amoy, China, Dec. 10, 1879, and was still there on Dec. 17. The Richmond, since leaving Shanghai, had visited Foochoo, and was going to Manila and Hong Kong. Rear-Admiral Patterson had received, through our diplomatic representative in Siam, a pressing invitation from the King to visit Bangkok, and had proposed to do so if his duties would permit. The Pascagoula arrived at Tien-Tsin Nov. 16, and the Ashuelot and Monocacy were at Shanghai. The Alert left Shanghai Dec. 1 for Kobe, Nagasaki, and Yokahama. The health of the squadron continues good. The Rear-Admiral reports that the exportation of tea from Shanghai, Foochoo, and Amoy to the United States is made altogether in foreign bottoms. He rarely meets with an American ship, except in Japanese ports.

The Tallapoosa left the Washington Navy-yard yesterday for Norfolk, to be docked for repairs.

Capt. McLane Tilton, United States Marine Corps, at Annapolis, Md., has been ordered to report to the commandant of the Washington Navy-yard on Feb. 6, to command the Marines stationed there. Leave of absence for one month has been granted Second Lieut. Thomas N. Wood, United States Marine Corps.

Capt. Thomas H. French, Seventh Cavalry, has been retired from active service on account of disability. The leave of absence granted Surgeon Charles B. White, United States Army, on account of disability, has been extended six months.

THE BURNS DINNER.

ADDRESSES BY THE REV. HENRY WARD BEECHER AND OTHERS.

A number of ladies and gentlemen notable in society, politics, theology, law, and letters, assembled at Delmonico's last evening to do honor to the memory of Robert Burns. At 8 o'clock the company sat down to an elegant dinner which had been laid for the guests, over which Mr. David Dudley Field presided. Among those who were present were the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher and wife, Major-Gen. W. S. Hancock, United States Army, Parke Godwin, Peter Cooper, Postmaster James, the Hon. Stewart L. Woodford, R. L. Marsh, the Hon. D. C. Calvin, the Hon. William Walter Phelps, Major A. B. Gardner, United States Army, George H. Yeaman, Major J. M. Bundy, Gen. Crittenden, wife, and daughter, Mrs. Keating and daughter, of Memphis, Tenn., Simon Stevens, Patrick Gilmore, Dr. W. H. White and wife, Mrs. Weatherby, Mr. Andrew H. H. Dawson, Mr. George W. MacLean, Mr. J. S. Babcock, Judge Fancuse, and John Hagaman. Letters of regret were received from the Hon. John Sherman, Secretary of the Treasury; Dr. O. W. Holmes, Judge John R. Brady, John G. Whittier, Vice-President Wheeler, Samuel L. Clemens (Mark Twain,) and a number of others.

After ample justice had been done to the repast, the formal toasts of the evening were announced by Mr. Field, "The President of the United States," and "the Queen of Great Britain and Ireland," which were greeted with "Hail to the Chief" and "God save the Queen" by the band. In the few remarks made by Mr. Field, he said of Robert Burns that "he was born in the middle of the last century, and died before its close, having lived 37 years. A plowman from his birth, yet of all the poets who had written in the English tongue—Shakespeare excepted, perhaps—his words have passed into more households than any other. His is the language of the people. All over the world, on this continent and the old, in Australia, and everywhere where the English Queen rules, his songs go into the cottages and into the stately houses of the rich." Our own poets, Halleck and Whittier, had eulogized him in tender verse, and our people had enshrined his memory in their hearts.

"The Genius of Robert Burns" was responded to by L. S. Marsh. To the toast "Songs and Singers" the Rev. Henry Ward Beecher was assigned to respond. He began by saying, "Nature always knows her own. Things will have their own course. Man may say, How much better is philosophy than fancy, how much better is fact than imagination! But, after all, in every age of the world—and so it will be until the very end—in the realm of fancy or of imagination, we have found more comfort, more joy in life; and I think we have also found more morality and religion in it than in philosophy and the more permanent forms of fact. Indeed, the latter is something despotic, and seems to have had more to do in forming language than any other part of man. Almost all language is meant for talk, and there is little left for the heart. The moment we begin to give to language any adequate expression of thought or strong feeling, we begin to use symbols and metaphores. It is the function of poetry to speak the language of the heart. It is the language of the unspoken affections. In the remarks which have been made this evening, some allusions have been made to his moral character. I did not like to hear those allusions made. He is dead and gone. I would only ask, what did this man leave on earth that was good, and what does his name deserve by reason of the good? What we would have done in his place we dare not think. When the farmer garners his thousands of bushels of wheat he never measures how much of straw there was or how much of chaff. As for Robert Burns, the words he has spoken for humanity, for honor, truth, fidelity, patience, courage, and endurance, have done more for mankind in Scotland than all the sermons that were preached from the pulpits during his life time." Mr. Parke Godwin responded to "The Press," the Hon. D. C. Calvin spoke for "The Tree of Liberty," Mr. George H. Yeaman was assigned to respond to "Burns' Letters," and after a few brief speeches by other guests, the pleasant ceremonies of the evening were concluded.

A MILITARY WEDDING.

MARRIAGE OF MAJOR-GEN. ROMEYN B. AYRES AND MISS JULIET OPIE HOPKINS.

St. Thomas's Church was the scene of a wedding ceremony at 5 o'clock yesterday afternoon, which, for the military celebrities present in full uniform, recalled the days of the war. The groom was Major-Gen. Romeyn B. Ayres, who served with distinction during the war. Entering that struggle in 1861 as Captain of the Fifth United States Artillery, he was mustered out of the service in 1865 as Major-General of Volunteers by brevet, and transferred to the regular Army as Lieutenant-Colonel of the Twenty-eighth Infantry. A native of this State, Gen. Ayres was graduated at the Military Academy at West Point in 1847, with the rank of Brevet Second Lieutenant, and assigned to the Fourth Artillery. In 1852 he was promoted to First Lieutenant, and in 1861 was made a Captain, and assigned to the Fifth Artillery. Gen. Ayres has recently been assigned to the command of Fort McHenry, the scene of one of the most brilliant exploits in the war of 1812. The bride, Miss Juliet Opie Hopkins, a beautiful brunette, is the niece and adopted daughter of Mrs. A. F. Hopkins, of Mobile, Ala., who has been spending a portion of the Winter in this City, and the daughter of Mr. R. H. Butcher, of Virginia. The bridal toilet was one of the most beautiful and tasteful of the wedding season, being of the fashionable tint of silk familiar to modistes as cream white, cut *en traine*, and trimmed with fleecy clouds of lace. A bridal veil fastened with a wreath of orange blossoms and a magnificent bridal bouquet completed the toilet. The affair was a very quiet one, but long before 5 o'clock the central space was completely filled with officers in uniform, civilian friends and relatives, and fashionably-dressed ladies. There were no bridesmaids, but eight ushers in uniform, who escorted the guests to their seats. Their names and rank were as follows: Col. J. S. Fletcher, United States Army; Capt. Chambers McKibbon, Fifteenth Infantry; Capt. G. F. Barster, Third Artillery; Capt. Erskine Gettings, Third Artillery; Capt. Joseph M. Calef, Third Artillery; Capt. James Chester, Third Artillery; Capt. H. S. Hudlow, Third Artillery, and Capt. Benjamin H. Randolph, Third Artillery. The two former were members during the war of Gen. Ayres's staff, and consequently belonged to the Second Division—Regulars—of the Fifth Army Corps, in command of which Gen. Ayres distinguished himself as a brave and brilliant officer. Col. H. G. Litchfield, United States Army, an old comrade in arms, performed the duties of best man, and was master of ceremonies.

The bridal party arrived promptly at 5 o'clock, and the ushers, formed two by two, preceded the bride and her mother, leaning upon the arms of their escorts, to the altar, in front of which the Rev. Dr. Morgan had already taken his place, ritual in hand. The ceremony occupied only a few minutes, during which every whisper was hushed and every eye directed to the party occupying the elevated space within the railing. There was no reception after the ceremony, but a wedding breakfast was served to a select few at the hotel where the bride's mother has been temporarily domiciled.

Among the military men present at the ceremony were Major-Gen. Winfield S. Hancock and family, Gen. Crittenden and family, Gen. Gibson, Gen. De Russey, Major Sane, Dr. and Mrs. Poe, and Dr. Middleton.

GEN. GARFIELD ON THE PRESIDENCY.

In reply to an inquiry from a Republican member of the Senate of Ohio Gen. Garfield has written a letter, under date of Jan. 26, in which he says: "I have no doubt that a decisive majority of our party in Ohio favor the nomination of John Sherman. He has earned this recognition at their hands by 25 years of conspicuous public service, a period which embraces nearly the whole life of the Republican Party. He deserves the special recognition of the nation for the great service he has rendered in making the Resumption law a success, and placing the national finances on a better basis. I am aware of the fact that some Republicans do not indorse all his opinions, but no man who has opinions can expect the universal concurrence of his party in all his views, and no man without opinions is worthy the support of a great party. I hope the Republicans of Ohio will make no attack on other candidates. They should fairly and generously recognize the merits of all. But I think they ought to present the name of Mr. Sherman to the National Convention and give him their united and cordial support."

MRS. BYAM K. STEVENS'S GERMAN.

Mrs. Byam K. Stevens, No. 33 West Thirty-second-street, gave a brilliant German last night at her residence. The hall, parlors, and ball-room were profusely decorated with floral pieces and roses of smilax, and the invited guests numbered about 250, selected from the highest social circle in this City. Supper, superintended by Pinard, was served at 12 o'clock. Among the invited guests were Col. and Mrs. Delancey Kane, Mr. and Mrs. William Astor, Mr. and Mrs. Iselin, the Misses Iselin, Mr. and Mrs. Meredith Howland, Mr. Dunlap Torrence, Miss Torrence, Mr. and Mrs. Stevens, and many others. The dancing was continued until a late hour.

GENERAL TELEGRAPH NEWS

ACCUSED OF KILLING HIS FATHER.

THE SUSPICIOUS CIRCUMSTANCES ATTENDING THE MURDER OF SAMUEL HOWE.

FRANKLIN, Penn., Jan. 27.—Several years ago Samuel Howe, a rich farmer of Cherrytree Township, Venango County, Penn., became a widower. He had several grown-up children. After the death of the old farmer's wife a great scandal grew up in the neighborhood over the intimacy that existed between the widower and the wife of a neighboring farmer named Miller. One night Mrs. Miller and Howe went away together. In returning home they were crossing a railroad track in a carriage. A train ran into the wagon. Mrs. Miller was killed. Her husband publicly made threats that he would have Howe's life. Two years ago Howe, being then 80 years of age, began paying attention to a widow named Sawyer. In the Spring of 1879 he gave out that he intended to marry Mrs. Sawyer. As he was a large property-holder, this marriage was looked upon by his children as likely to interfere with their rights, and they stoutly opposed it.

S. Robinson Howe, one of the sons, and his wife, lived at the homestead with the old man. On June 2, 1879, old Mr. Howe left the house after breakfast for a lot near by, to salt some cattle that were pastured there. Robinson Howe and a hired man named James Saltsgiver, went to a field near the house to plant potatoes. About 8:30 o'clock the former left the potato-patch and walked toward the lot where his father had gone. He was gone an hour. When he returned he asked the hired man whether his father had come back yet. Being answered in the negative, he said that they would go up to the pasture, catch the horses, and go to Titusville to attend to some business there. When they entered the lot Robinson Howe exclaimed: "My God! there's father now!" The old man lay dead on his side, by a large stone near the fence, in a pool of blood. Neither the son nor the hired man touched the body, but caught the horses and summoned Coroner Crone. An investigation was begun at once. Old Mr. Howe had one pistol-shot wound in the back of his head, and one behind the left ear. The first ball had come out at the nose, and the second at the right cheek. The old man's head had then been hammered with a fence-rail, which, with marks of blood on it, lay near. Robinson Howe swore at the inquest that he had seen a man resembling Miller, (the man whose wife had been killed while in company with Samuel Howe, and who had threatened to kill the old man,) lurking around on the day of the murder, and that he had asked for Samuel Howe. The inquest was held with closed doors, and several important witnesses were not called. A verdict that the dead man came to his death at the hands of some person or persons unknown was rendered.

The verdict met with great dissatisfaction, for it is generally believed that Robinson Howe knew more about the murder than he chose to tell. It was ascertained that the man Miller was in New-York State at the time of the murder, and a letter was received from him signifying his willingness to answer any charge that might be made against him. Four days after the murder the will of the deceased man was read. It was dated Sept. 30, 1877, and, with the exception of $365 distributed among his other children, Howe left all his property to his son Robinson. A blank pistol-cartridge was found in Robinson Howe's barn a few days after the murder. These circumstances, with other things, strength-ened the suspicion against the son. The matter has not allowed to rest. The County Commissioners finally succumbed to the public demand, and offered a reward of $250 for the detection of the murderer of Samuel Howe. A delegation of citizens waited on Robinson Howe and his brother Sproul Howe, and requested them also to offer a reward. It was some time before they consented, and then offered $25 each for the detection of their father's murderer. The case was placed in the hands of Chief of Police O'Neill, of Oil City. He arrested S. Robinson Howe on charge of being the principal, and James Saltsgiver, the hired man, as an accomplice in the crime, on June 19. Saltsgiver was subsequently admitted to bail in $500 to appear as a witness. Robinson Howe was also released on $3,000 bail. The trial of Howe will commence to-morrow in this place, before Judge C. E. Taylor.

CONNECTICUT LEGISLATION.

REFORMING DIVORCE LAWS — PREVENTING RAILROAD OVERCHARGES AND DISCRIMINATION.

HARTFORD, Conn., Jan. 28.—Ex-President Woolsey, Prof. Wayland, Dr. Leonard W. Bacon, and others representing the various religious bodies in other States, appeared before the Judiciary Committee this afternoon in behalf a bill which requires State Attorneys to appear and defend in all cases of divorce where no counsel to contest are entered within three days after suits are brought. It was said that eight out of ten cases last year in the State were uncontested. Another bill is before the committee requiring divorce suits to go over one term, and requiring the plaintiff to answer certain questions calculated to prevent collusion between the parties. It is probable that some action will be taken at this session to remedy this growing evil of the loose system prevailing here with reference to divorces.

Vincent Colyer, of Darien, introduced to-day his bill of last year, which was then passed by the House and defeated in the Senate, providing that no railroad earning 8 per cent on paid-in capital should charge more than 2½ cents a mile for passengers; those earning 10 per cent no more than 2 cents a mile, but no road is required to charge less than 5 cents for carrying a passenger a short distance. The bill further provides that no road shall charge for the transportation of freight to any station on its road a greater sum than is at the time charged for the transportation of the like class, quality, or quantity of freight from the same original point of departure to any station at a greater distance on its road in the same direction. Two or more corporations whose roads connect shall not charge or receive for the transportation of freight to any station on the road of either of them a greater sum than is at the time charged for transportation from the same original point of departure to any station at a greater distance on the road of either of them in the same direction. Every road shall grant equal privileges and the same concessions to all persons shipping the same quality and quantity of freight between the same points, and any road which shall willfully violate any of these provisions shall forfeit $500, one-half to be paid to the persons overcharged.

SEEKING DEMOCRATIC HARMONY.

ALBANY, Jan. 28.—Col. Frederick Conkling is here, ostensibly as a representative merchant to argue the passage of the proposed Pilot bill, but it is said that his real mission is that of a harmonizer. He is said to have been in consultation with Amasa J. Parker, Erastus Corning and Judge Chruch with the view of securing the influence of these Democrats in an attempt to unite the jarring factions of the Democratic Party. Mr. Corning is reported as having haughtily rejected the overtures made to him, because no assurance could be given that Tilden would not be a candidate. Mr. Parker's reception of the proposition of Col. Conkling has not been made known. Democratic members of the Legislature consider Mr. Conkling's efforts as amounting to little more than "futile dalliance," and doomed to speedy failure as one interpretation of the business is said to be an excuse for bringing Judge Church's name forward in connection with the Democratic nomination for President.

BIRD-SHOOTING CONTESTS.

BERGEN, N. J., Jan. 28.—Several New-Jersey pigeon-shooters shot for a hedge here to-day. The terms of the competition were 10 birds each, H and T traps, single barrel, 21 yards rise. The result was a tie between W. P. De Con and William Smith. The tie was shot off, resulting in De Con winning the hedge by a score of 15 birds. Smith then shot a match of 15 birds a side with George Paulding, of Brooklyn, same rules as above, resulting in a tie at 11 birds each. The tie was shot off—5 birds each, 28 yards rise—resulting in Smith winning the stakes, $30.

HANLAN'S ROWING CONTESTS.

TORONTO,

FINANCIAL AFFAIRS.

SALES AT THE STOCK EXCHANGE—JAN. 28.

GOVERNMENT STOCKS—10:30 A. M.

$30,000 U. S. 4s, R. b.a.104⅝

SALES TO 1 P. M.

100 Pacific Mail	17	1200	47	100	47⅛
40,000 U. S. 4s, c.	104	1000	47⅛	100	47⅛
40,000 U. S. 4s, c.	104	1000	47⅛	200	47⅛
10,000 U. S. 4s, c.	104	1000	47⅛	200	47⅛
20,000 U. S. 4s, c.	104	1000	47⅛	100

SITUATIONS WANTED.

FEMALES.

THE UP-TOWN OFFICE OF THE TIMES.

The up-town office of THE TIMES is located at No. 1,356 Broadway, south-east corner of 32d-st. Open daily, Sundays included, from 4 A. M. to 9 P. M. Subscriptions received, and copies of THE TIMES for sale.
ADVERTISEMENTS RECEIVED UNTIL 9 P. M.

CHAMBER-MAID. — BY A COMPETENT young woman; good seamstress; in private family; understands waiting on ladies; can do up fine laces; willing to take charge of children. Call or address No. 12 West 44th-st.

CHAMBER-MAID AND WAITRESS.—BY A young girl to first-class chamber-maid and waitress; best City reference. Call at No. 119 East 46th-st., basement flat.

CHAMBER-MAID AND WAITRESS.—BY A young girl in private family; best City reference; City or country; willing and obliging. Call at No. 307 7th-av., in the rear.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A YOUNG ENGLISH girl as chamber-maid and to assist with washing or care of children; good references. Address Chamber-maid, Box 692 6th-av.

CHAMBER-MAID AND WAITRESS.—BY a girl as chamber-maid and waitress in private family; best of City references. Call at No. 525 6th-av., in millinery store.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A YOUNG GIRL AS competent chamber-maid; alone but first-class; prefer lady living in country; best of references. Call at No. 1,356 Broadway, in the Saratoga.

CHAMBER-MAID AND SEAMSTRESS.—BY a respectable girl as first-class chamber-maid and seamstress in private family; best City references. Sews by hand and machine, at No. 214 East 30th-st.

CHAMBER-MAID.—BY A PROTESTANT GIRL as chamber-maid or waitress in small, quiet family; City references. Call at No. 248 West 30th-st.

CHAMBER-MAID AND SEAMSTRESS.—AS first-class chamber-maid and seamstress; best of City references. Call at No. 318 East 24th-st.

CHAMBER-MAID AND LAUNDRESS.—BY an young woman; good City references. Address H. J., Box No. 214 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

COOK, &c.—BY A RESPECTABLE PROTESTANT woman in a private family; good cook, washer and ironer; good bread, biscuit and pastry baker; understands all kinds of meats and soups; good marketer; good City and country references. Call for two days, at No. 349 West 30th-st., first door; no cards.

COOK.—BY COMPETENT WOMAN AS FIRST-class cook; private family; superior bread and biscuit, soups, game, &c.; best City references. Address Cook, Box No. 251 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

COOK, &c.—CHAMBER-MAID, &c.—BY TWO respectable girls in small private family, one as cook, washer and ironer, other as chamber-maid and waitress; first-class City references. Call for two days, at No. 236 East 41st-st.

COOK, &c.—CHAMBER-MAID, &c.—BY two together or separate; one as cook, washer and ironer, the other as waitress and chamber-maid; to go to a country place; best City references; private family. Call at No. 344 West 38th-st., third door.

COOK.—BY A RESPECTABLE WOMAN; NO OBJECTION to assist with washing; to go out by the day, week, or month; good City reference. Call at No. 225 East 48th-st.

COOK.—BY A SOUTHERN WOMAN AS FIRST-class cook; receptions and parties a specialty; City or country; best of references from employers. Address E. C., Box No. 203 Times Up-town Office, 1,356 Broadway.

COOK.—BY A YOUNG WOMAN AS FIRST-CLASS cook; do coarse washing; excellent baker; City, or short distance in country; best City reference. Call at No. 305 6th-av., third bell.

COOK.—BY A PROTESTANT WOMAN, FIRST-class, in private family; thoroughly understands her business; City or country; good reference. Call at No. 237 East 27d-st., second flight, back.

COOK.—BY AN EXCELLENT COOK, BAKER; AS washer to washing of small private family; best City references. Address S. D., Box No. 263 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

COOK, WASHER, AND IRONER.—BY A quiet respectable woman; good references. Call, for the day only, at present employer's, No. 23 East 16th-st.

COOK.—BY A RESPECTABLE PROTESTANT girl as first-class cook in a private family; good City references. Address A. B., care Mrs. Flipp, No. 303 East 35th-st.

COOK.—AS FIRST-CLASS COOK AND BAKER IN private family; all kinds of soups, side dishes and desserts; assist in washing if required; first-class City references. Call at No. 223 East 39th-st.

COOK, WASHER, AND IRONER.—BY A girl lately landed; lived in families in the old country; prefers not as much as good home. Call at No. 223 West 35th-st.

COOK, &c.—BY A FIRST-CLASS COOK; GOOD baker; understands her business thoroughly; best City reference from last employer; no cards. Call at No. 649 3d-av., ring second bell.

COOK, &c.—BY A SCOTCH PROTESTANT GIRL as cook, washer, and ironer; understands her business thoroughly; best City reference. Call, for two days, at No. 238 East 29th-st., rear.

COOK.—BY A RESPECTABLE WOMAN AS COOK in private family; best of City reference given; sews, for two days, at No. 629 6th-av., in store.

COOK.—BY A YOUNG WOMAN AS FIRST-CLASS cook; best of City references. Call at No. 165 West 60th-st.

COOK.—AS FIRST-CLASS COOK IN A PRIVATE family. Call, for two days, at No. 126 West 19th-st., rear.

COOK.—BY A WOMAN IN PRIVATE FAMILY; will do coarse washing and ironing; good City references from last place. Call at No. 406 West 40th-st.

COOK.—AS FIRST-CLASS COOK IN SMALL PRIVATE family; best of City references; no cards. Call at No. 459 7th-av., between 32d and 34th-sts.

COOK.—THOROUGHLY UNDERSTANDS COOKING all kinds of soups, meats, and desserts; City references. Call, two days, at No. 238 7th-av.

COOK.—BY A RESPECTABLE PROTESTANT girl as first-class cook; best references. Call, for two days, at No. 240 East 30th-st.

DRESS-MAKER.—BY A RESPECTABLE PROTestant person as competent dress-maker, seamstress, and nurse; to go to a private family; good City references. Call at No. 323 West 27th-st.

DRESS-MAKER. — EXPERIENCED; CUTS, fits, trims perfectly; makes over; by day, $1.25; or family seamstress and dress-maker by month. Call at No. 1,294 Broadway, near 33d-st.

DRESS-MAKER.—BY FIRST-CLASS FRENCH dress-maker; cuts and fits perfectly; works by the day; City references. Call at No. 228 West 41st-st.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A FIRST-CLASS LAUNDRESS; understands all kinds of family washing and fastidious ironing; City references from City or country. Address L. R., Box No. 253 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

LAUNDRESS.—AS FIRST-CLASS LAUNDRESS in private family; the best City references from last place; would assist with chamber-work. Address L. K., Box 228 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

LAUNDRESS.—BY THOROUGH COMPETENT laundress in private family; good references; highly recommended from last place. Seen, for two days, at No. 207 West 26th-st., Room No. 7.

LAUNDRESS.—BY A YOUNG WOMAN AS LAUNdress; willing to assist with chamber-work; City references. Address A. L., Box No. 207 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

NURSE AND SEAMSTRESS.—BY A NORTH German Protestant; to one or two young children; or will do lady; speaks French; can do all kinds of family sewing; City reference. Address A., Box No. 254 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

NURSE.—BY A RESPECTABLE GERMAN GIRL, a Protestant, as children's nurse; willing to make herself generally useful; no cards. Call at No. 78 West 38th-st., near Broadway.

NURSE.—BY EXPERIENCED PROTESTANT INfant's nurse; bring up on bottle; takes charge of baby from monthly nurse; lady can be seen. Call at No. 136 West 30th-st.

NURSE.—BY A PROTESTANT WOMAN AS IN-valid's nurse; has had several years' experience; best City references. Call at No. 237 East 30th-st.

NURSE AND SEAMSTRESS.—BY A YOUNG girl as nurse, and would take care of growing children; best City reference. Address J. M., Box No. 305 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

SEAMSTRESS.—BY A YOUNG WOMAN AS seamstress; cuts, fits, and trims, and makes children's clothing; can be well recommended. Call at No. 172 3d-av.

WAITRESS.—BY A COMPETENT YOUNG woman as waitress; understands the care of silver and glass; good City reference. Call at No. 490 6th-av., Room No. 11, third floor.

WAITRESS.—BY A FIRST-CLASS WAITRESS; understands making all kinds of salads, care of silver, serving wines; can take a man's place; best City references. Call at 238 East 26th-st.

WAITRESS.—BY A YOUNG GIRL AS FIRST-class waitress. Can be seen, for two days, at present employer's, No. 123 East 30th-st.

WASHING.—BY A RESPECTABLE WOMAN, family washing and ironing at home; 75 cents and $1 dozen; Troy style. Address No. 327 West 30th-st., first door, front.

WASHING.—BY A RESPECTABLE YOUNG girl; ladies' and family washing at home; fluting by machine or scissors, 75 cents a dozen. Call at No. 154 1st-st.

WASHING.—BY A FIRST-CLASS LAUNDRESS; best quality washing; good references. Call at No. 233 West 35th-st., Room No. 2.

MALES.

BUTLER.—BY A COMPETENT BUTLER; WILL go out on or about the 2d of next month; City references given; only parties who keep a regular establishment and regular servants need answer this; residence at Newport preferred. Address Butler, No. 742 3d-av.

COACHMAN.—IN CITY OR COUNTRY; HAS charge of one of the best-class families in the City; understands raising young stock and poultry; can milk; has the best of City references for capabilities. Address Coachman, Box No. 208 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

COACHMAN.—BY A SINGLE YOUNG MAN; UNmarried; has charge of horses and carriages in every respect; first-class City references from last employer; is an experienced City driver. Address M. T., Box No. 252 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

COACHMAN.—BY A FIRST-CLASS COACHMAN; married; no family; thoroughly understands his business; best of City references. Address Coachman, Box No. 1,356 Broadway, in the Saratoga.

COACHMAN.—BY A YOUNG MAN AS COACHman to go in the country; is willing and obliging, and can furnish excellent references from late employer. Address Country, Box No. 204 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

COACHMAN.—BY A YOUNG MARRIED ENGlish-born Protestant; thoroughly understands his business in all branches; has always lived in the best of families; best of testimonials from last place. Address W. M. H., Box 307 Times Up-town Office, 1,356 Broadway.

COACHMAN.—BY A FIRST-CLASS COACHMAN; married; strong; no family; sober; no objections to the country; has first-class City references. Call or address W. G. C., at Mr. Brewster's, 47th-st. and Broadway.

COACHMAN—COOK.—BY A MAN AND WIFE; the children; wife to cook or housework; man as coachman and plain gardener; both perfectly understand their business; best references. Call or address Coachman, No. 410 East 17th-st.

COACHMAN.—BY A RESPECTABLE MAN; IS A good careful driver; thoroughly competent; strictly sober and honest; will produce most excellent recommendations for the last 14 years. Address Coachman, No. 213 West 53d-st.

COACHMAN AND GARDENER.—BY A SINgle young man; is an excellent groom and careful driver; long year's recommendation from last employer. Address J. W., No. 105 King-st.

COACHMAN.—BY A THOROUGH COACHMAN; will be recommended by the best families in the City; strictly sober habits. Call or address H., No. 51 West 13th-st., in the feed store.

COACHMAN AND GROOM.—BY A FIRST-class man of long experience in the care and treatment of horses; good City and country references. Call or address John, No. 16 East 39th-st.

COACHMAN AND GROOM.—BY A YOUNG Englishman; thoroughly understands the horse; carriages; first-class best City references. Call or address E. C., at stables, No. 19 East 52d-st.

COACHMAN AND GROOM.—CAN MILK; UNderstands thoroughly the care and raising of stock; married, no children; wife a good cook and butter maker. Address J. S., Box No. 292 Times Office.

FARMER AND GARDENER.—BY AN AMERican who has been 16 years with last employer; has thorough knowledge of farming; only first-class gardener in all its various branches. Address John Spencer, Box No. 282 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

GARDENER.—BY MARRIED MAN; ENGLISH; no incumbrance; has 20 years' experience in this country and England with greenhouses, graperies, farming, &c.; wife would take full charge of dairy, poultry, &c.; best City references from last employer. Call or address Gardener, No. 343 East 25th-st.

GARDENER.—BY AN AGED PROFESSIONAL gardener, Protestant; married, no family; to take charge of a gentleman's place whose capability and character will bear investigation. Address Gardener, Post Office Box No. 43, Astoria, Long Island.

GARDENER AND FARMER.—BY A SCOTCHman; 30 years experience in greenhouse, grapery and vegetable; is a thorough grower and propagator; small family; good references; yearly, or job place; can milk. Address Livingston, Box No. 216 Times Office.

GARDENER.—BY FIRST-CLASS ENGLISH GARdener, who thoroughly understands his profession in all its branches; best of City references from last employer. Address John Williams, Box No. 251 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

GARDENER AND COACHMAN.—BY A GERman Protestant; married; gardener and coachman; married, but no family; reference given. Address or apply to Joseph Gissenhofer, New-Utrecht, Long Island.

JANITOR.—BY AN EXPERIENCED PROTESTant man and wife, without incumbrance, as janitor; if capable of repairing, &c.; best references, or deposit if required. Address Janitor, Box No. 209 Times Office.

WAITER.—BY A SWISS PROTESTANT IN A private family; two years and a half references from last employers; country preferred. Address, by letter, stating wages and privileges, H. B., Box No. 224 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

WAITER.—BY A STEADY, RESPECTABLE Protestant man, who thoroughly understands his business as a first-class butler; good City references. Address Butler, Box No. 271 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

WAITER.—BY A FRENCHMAN AS WAITER IN private family; understands cleaning silver thoroughly; City references. Address A. le, Box No. 296 Times Up-town Office, No. 1,356 Broadway.

WAITER.—BY A YOUNG COLORED MAN AS first-class waiter; can furnish good references. Address J. H. R., No. 103 West 27th-st.

FRENCH ADVERTISEMENTS

UNE BONNE CUISINIERE FRANÇAISE désire se placer dans une famille privée. Miss Lawlor, No. 837 3d-av.

DIVIDENDS.

OFFICE

HOFFMAN

FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY,

No. 113 BROADWAY.

New-York, Jan. 20, 1880.

At a meeting of the Board of Directors, held this day, a semi-annual dividend of FIVE (5) PER CENT. was declared, payable on demand.

JOHN D. MACINTIRE, Secretary.

OFFICE OF LA PLATA MINING AND SMELTING COMPANY, 37 LIBERTY-ST., New-York, Jan. 16, 1880. ROOMS Nos. 12 AND 13, NEW-YORK.

DIVIDEND NO. 2.

THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES HAVE THIS day declared a dividend of SEVEN AND ONE-HALF CENTS per share (par value $10) on the capital stock, payable on Saturday, Jan. 31, at the office of the company.

Transfer-books will close on Wednesday, Jan. 31, and reopen Monday, Feb. 2, 1880.

Statement of the Financial Condition of the Company.

Cash capital	$100,000 00
Dec. 1, 1879.—Balance surplus account	55,651 80
Net profits for net earnings for month of December	16,027 78
Total	$151,679 58
Dividend of 7½ cents per share, 100,000 shares	15,000 00
Leaving cash balance Jan. 1, 1880	$136,679 58

WM. R. ALLEN, Assistant Secretary.

CLEVELAND, COLUMBUS, CINCINNATI AND INDIANAPOLIS RAILWAY COMPANY. CLEVELAND, Ohio, Jan. 13, 1880.

THIS COMPANY HAS DECLARED A dividend of TWO AND ONE-HALF PER CENT, payable on and after MONDAY, Feb. 2, next. Coupon Bonds maturing at New-York will be paid at the office of the United States Trust Company, of New-York, No. 49 Wall-st. All others will be paid at the office of the Treasurer, in Cleveland.

The transfer-books will be closed on the evening of the 30th inst., and reopened on Feb. 3.

By order of the Board of Directors.

GEO. H. RUSSELL, Treasurer.

OREGON RAILWAY AND NAVIGATION COMPANY.

QUARTERLY DIVIDEND NO. 2.

The Board of Directors have this day declared a dividend of 2 per cent, payable Feb. 2, prox., at the Farmers' Loan and Trust Company.

The transfer-books will close 20th inst., and remain closed until Feb. 3.

GEO. R. ADAMS, Secretary.

Jan. 7, 1880.

ARE YOU INSURED?

FIFTY-FIRST DIVIDEND.

OFFICE EQUITABLE FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 120 BROADWAY, SUITE 50 OF WOOLF AND KOTT BTS.

The Board of Directors has declared the usual semi-annual dividend, payable Feb. 4, 1880.

E. R. FELLOWS, President.

JOSEPH W. DOBBS, Secretary.

OFFICE OF THE EXCELSIOR WATER AND MINING COMPANY, No. 31 Broad-street, New-York, Jan. 26, 1880.

DIVIDEND NO. 23.

The Excelsior Water and Mining Company will pay a dividend of TWENTY-FIVE CENTS Per Share at the office of Wells, Fargo & Co., No. 63 Broadway, on Feb. 5. The transfer-books will close on the 31st inst.

R. R. PARSONS, Assistant Secretary.

SAN FRANCISCO, Jan. 17, 1880.

THE BODIE CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY has declared dividend No. 4, of Twenty-five Cents per share, payable at the office of HADLAW & CO., No. 16 PINE-ST., New-York, 24 February, on all stock issued from the New-York agency.

Transfer-books close on the 20th inst., and reopen 24 proximo.

W. H. LENT, Secretary.

LONG ISLAND RAILROAD FIRST MORTgAGE AND NEWTOWN AND FLUSHING RAILROAD Coupons, both due Nov. 1, 1879, will be paid on presentation at the banking-house of Messrs. Drexel, Morgan & Co., New-York, on and after Jan. 30, 1880.

THOS. R. SHARP, Receiver Long Island Railroad Company.

LONG ISLAND CITY, Jan. 28, 1880.

BROADWAY INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 158 BROADWAY, Jan. 24, 1880.

CASH CAPITAL $200,000
NET SURPLUS 200,404

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE DEclared a semi-annual dividend of EIGHT PER CENT, payable Feb. 2, 1880, until which time the transfer-books will be closed.

JOHN WEAY, Secretary.

GALVESTON, HARRISBURG AND SAN ANTONIO RAILWAY COMPANY.

New-York, Jan. 27, 1880.

COUPONS maturing Feb. 1, prox., will be paid on and after that date, at the office of Messrs. DREXEL, MORGAN & CO., corner Wall and Broad sts., New-York.

OLAR BARBIDGE, Treasurer.

OFFICE OF THE MANHATTAN FIRE INSURANCE COMPANY, No. 64 WALL-ST., New-York, Jan. 15, 1880.

AT A MEETING OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS held this day, a semi-annual dividend of Five (5) per Cent was declared, payable on demand.

LOUIS P. GARMAN, Secretary.

COAL RECEIVING BANK, New-York, Jan. 24, 1880.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared a dividend of FIVE (5) PER CENT, payable to the stockholders, Feb. 4, 1880. The transfer-books will be closed until the 3d proximo. By order

WM. A. NASH, Cashier.

New-York, Jan. 16, 1880.

THE PRINCIPAL AND INTEREST OF THE First Mortgage 7 Per Cent. Bonds issued by the Mercantile Trust Company, maturing Feb. 1, 1880, will be paid at the office of the company, No. 120 Broadway, Feb. 2.

E. L. MONTGOMERY, Treasurer.

PACIFIC BANK, New-York, Jan. 16, 1880.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS HAVE THIS day declared a dividend of [illegible] per cent, payable on demand. The transfer-books will close on the 20th inst. [illegible]

FINANCIAL. FINANCIAL.

Important Financial Organization.

THE UNITED STATES MINING INVESTMENT COMPANY,

NO. 61 BROADWAY, NEW-YORK.

EDWARD BATES DORSEY ..... PRESIDENT.
H. H. LAIDLAW ..... TREASURER.
S. A. WHEELWRIGHT ..... SECRETARY.
COUDERT BROS. ..... COUNSEL.

DIRECTORS:

EDWARD BATES DORSEY	Mining Engineer.
H. H. LAIDLAW	Treasurer Quicksilver Mining Company.
WM. H. GUION	of Williams & Guion's Steamship Line.
WM. PITT SHEARMAN	late Receiver and Treasurer Erie Railroad.
OSCAR FENN	President National Bank of New-York.
JONATHAN SIDELL	Banker.
D. APPLETON	of D. Appleton & Co., Publishers.
ULYSSES A. GRANT, Jr.	Lawyer.
HERBERT R. GRANT	President St. Nicholas National Bank.
JAMES R. ROBINSON	Consulting Engineer, New-York.
GEORGE W. WARREN	N.Y. Life Insurance Company, Boston, Mass.
C. J. WHITTIER	of Lee, Higginson & Co., Bankers, Boston, Mass.
WILLIAM C. COLVIN	Lawyer, Boston, Mass.
H. HAVEMEYER	of Havemeyer, Eastwick & Co., Brokers.
A. F. WILLMARTH	Vice-President Home Fire Insurance Company.
W. H. JENKINS, Jr.	of Wm. H. Jenkins & Co., Bankers.
GEO. C. GARDNER	Commission Merchant.
THOMAS MANNING	Broker.
H. C. FAHNESTOCK	President National Bank of Republic.
EDWARD A. FOSDICK	Consulting Engineer, Boston, Mass.
A. PINKERTON, Jr.	United States Marine Insurance.
CHAS. A. PERKINS	of Perkins & Chenin, Bankers.
L. A. GREENLEAF	of Tower, Giddings & Co., Bankers, Boston, Mass.
WM. H. WEST	Vice-President of St. Louis and San Francisco Railroad, St. Louis, Mo.
ARTHUR SEWALL	President Bank of Maine, Bath, Me.

This company has been organized to meet a pressing want, both in this country and abroad, viz.: That mining properties offered to the public shall have the guarantee of responsible parties that they have received the most thorough investigation and examination by competent and reliable engineers, employed by their specialty for that purpose; and the assurance that the property is yielding and should continue to yield, for many years to come, sufficient dividends to investors from the actual earnings of the mines.

The names of the officers of this company afford ample security that what is promised will be certainly fulfilled. To avoid the possibility of personal liability or assessments, all organizations promoted by this company will be based on a nominal capital, far below actual value and subscription price, and the forms, &c., adopted will be under the most criminal legal advice.

The first property offered by the company with its full indorsement and recommendation is the SPRING VALLEY HYDRAULIC GOLD COMPANY, situated in Butte County, Cal., and containing of two of the best gravel deposits in the country, with an ample supply of water and a complete system of reservoirs and piping for working the same. One of the properties forming the consolidation, in the last 70 days' work, cleaned up $30,741, which earnings will be largely increased under the present organization. All the reports on this property indicate that dividends amounting to a large percentage on the subscription value can be regularly maintained for a long period. A contract for 15 years has been made with Prof. Edison, which will give a handsome return from the tailings which have heretofore been wasted.

For further information apply at the office of

THE UNITED STATES MINING INVESTMENT COMPANY, No. 61 Broadway, New-York.

EDWARD BATES DORSEY, President.

PUBLIC SALE OF KINGSTON CITY BONDS.

There will be sold at PUBLIC AUCTION, at the CITY HALL, in the City of Kingston, On FEB. 18, 1880, At 12 o'clock M. of that day,

$40,000 IN BONDS OF THE CITY OF KINGSTON,

Being 6 per cent semi-annual coupon bonds, payable in 1910, with option of payment after 10 years, of the denomination of $1,000, $500, and $100. Such bonds issued to pay off bonds falling due.

TERMS OF SALE, CASH.

or 10 per cent, of bid down, and balance, with interest, on or before March 1, 1880. A single bond will be offered, and the purchaser to have option of taking at the rate of the bid, bonds to the amount of not exceeding $10,000.

THOMAS CORNELL, President Board of Bank Presidents.

Dated Jan. 16, 1880.

TO INVESTORS.

First Mortgage 7 per Cent. Gold Bonds of the Utah and Pleasant Valley R. R. Co.

Having sold a large proportion of the Utah and Pleasant Valley Railway Bonds, we now offer the remainder at 90 and interest.

The mortgage covers the completed road and all the valuable and inexhaustible Coal and Lumber Lands owned by the company. This coal is pronounced by best judges equal to the celebrated "Anthracite" of Colchester, Conn., found west of the Rocky Mountains. The company, in connection with the Union Pacific Railroad Company, has the exclusive sale of coal south of Salt Lake City. Confiding in our personal knowledge, fully recommend these bonds to investors.

H. P. DE GRAAF, President Bowery National Bank.

SHELDON & WADSWORTH, 10 Wall-st., New-York.

INVESTMENT BONDS.

The Purchasing Committee appointed under the agreement of 20th September, 1876, for the pacification of the International and Great Northern Railroad of Texas, will receive sealed proposals for the first mortgage 6 per cent. gold bonds provided to be issued under said agreement. The bonds are secured by a purchase-money mortgage to JAY GOULD, JOHN D. ROCKEFELLER, and WILLIAM VANDERBILT; are dated 1st November, 1879, and have forty years to run from that date; interest payable 1st May and 1st November; both interest and principal are payable in United States gold coin of the present standard of fineness, at the Office of the Trustee. The total issue of these bonds is only $8,694,000 on 519 miles of completed railroad, and further issues are limited to $10,000 per mile of completed road.

Sealed proposals addressed to the Purchasing Committee for the whole or any portion of the above bonds will be received at the office of J. S. KENNEDY & CO., 52 Wall-st., New-York, RECEIVED ON SATURDAY, THE 31st INST., when and where the proposals will be opened in the presence of the bidders.

The committee reserves to itself the right to reject any or all bids.

By order of the Purchasing Committee.

JOHN S. KENNEDY, Chairman.

St. Louis, Hannibal & Keokuk R. R. Co.

First Mortgage 7 Per Cent. Bonds, DUE 1917.

Issued at $13,000 per mile of completed road; $10,000 cash per mile already paid in on stock subscriptions and expended in construction.

Principal and interest payable in New-York, coupons April and October.

We offer a balance of $500,000 of these bonds at 90 and interest, reserving the right to advance price without notice, and recommend them as a safe investment.

AMERMAN & BURWELL, Bankers, NO. 16 BROAD-ST., NEW-YORK.

BANKING HOUSE

HENRY CLEWS & CO., NO. 18 NEW-ST., NEW-YORK. Next door to the Stock Exchange. UP-TOWN BRANCH, NO. 1143 BROADWAY, COR. 26TH-ST.

Connected by private wires and telephone. MEMBERS OF THE NEW-YORK STOCK EXCHANGE. Securities bought and sold for cash or on margin, strictly on commission.

Deposits received subject to check on demand; interest paid on all daily balances.

Our office being on the same floor, and next door to the Stock Exchange, insures the execution of orders the instant they reach the Exchange. Our Stock Board and gives this department his personal attention.

FLINT AND PERE MARQUETTE RAILWAY

Holders of the Stock of this Company who are desirous of participating in the Plan of Reorganization are hereby notified that they must deposit their stock with either of the following depositaries by the 1st of February next: Manhattan National Bank, New-Bedford; First National Bank, Utica; Merchants' Exchange National Bank, New-York, who will issue negotiable receipts for the same. The certificates should have power of attorney filled up and endorsed to the Committee.

LOUIS SNOW, Jr., FRANCIS HATHAWAY, A. G. BROWER, J. H. WISE, E. A. V. POST, Chairman. Dec. 27, 1879.

H. S. MARLOR,

NO. 10 WALL-ST.,

HAS FOR SALE FIRST MORTGAGE BONDS, INCOME BONDS, AND STOCK OF THE

OHIO CENTRAL R. R. CO.

ALSO, PEORIA, DECATUR AND EVANSVILLE R. R. CO.'S SECURITIES.

FLINT AND PERE MARQUETTE

RAILWAY.

Parties holding consolidated bonds with special land security wishing to sell their bonds will please communicate with

CLARK, POST, & MARTIN, NO. 34 PINE-ST., NEW-YORK.

R. M. RAVEN & CO., Members of New-York Stock and Mining Exchanges, BANKERS AND BROKERS, POST OFFICE BOX NO. 263. NO. 15 WALL-ST. Buy and sell all securities dealt in at the Exchanges, strictly on commission, for cash, or on margin. Our office, adjoining the Stock Exchange, enables us to execute orders with dispatch. Mr. Raven attends personally in the Exchange. Interest allowed on deposits. Correspondence solicited.

A MEETING OF STOCKHOLDERS OF THE UNION CONSOLIDATED MINING COMPANY of Tennessee, will be held on WEDNESDAY, 4th February, next, at the office of Simon Sterne, (Brown Brothers & Co.'s Building,) No. 61 Wall-st., at 12 o'clock, to consider the subject of reorganization and resumption of business. A full meeting is desired.

JAMES A. ALEXANDER, Chairman of the Stockholders' adjourned meeting.

FOR SALE.

NEW-YORK, ONTARIO AND WESTERN RAILROAD STOCK.

By ARENTS & YOUNG, No. 5 New-st.

NOTICE.

The First National Bank of Hackensack, N. J., located at Hackensack, by the State of New-Jersey, is closing up its affairs. All note-holders and other creditors of said association are, therefore, hereby notified to present the notes and other claims against the association for payment.—Dated Dec. 10, 1879.

A. D. BROWER, Cashier.

UNITED STATES EXPRESS COMPANY, TREASURER'S OFFICE, NO. 52 BROADWAY, New-York, Jan. 19, 1880.

THE TRANSFER-BOOKS OF THIS COMPANY will be closed to-day, and reopened Feb. 17, 1880.

THEO. F. WOOD, Treasurer.

BROWN BROTHERS & CO., NO. 59 WALL-ST., MAKE COMMERCIAL AND TRAVELLERS' CREDITS AVAILABLE IN ALL PARTS OF THE WORLD.

OFFICE OF THE ATLANTIC MUTUAL INSURANCE COMPANY, NEW-YORK, Jan. 24, 1880.

THE TRUSTEES, IN CONFORMITY TO the charter of the company, submit the following statement of its affairs on the 31st December, 1879:

Premiums received on marine risks from 1st January, 1879, to 31st December, 1879	$3,699,066 59
Premiums on policies not marked off 1st January, 1879	1,671,981 91
Total amount of marine premiums	$5,371,048 49
No policies have been issued upon life risks, nor upon fire risks distinct from marine risks.	
Premiums marked off from 1st January, 1879, to 31st December, 1879	$3,875,101 90
Losses paid during the same period	$1,526,331 04
Returns of premiums	$340,736 77
Expenses	$1,867,067 81
The company has the following assets, viz.: United States and State of New-York stock, City, bank, and other stocks	$3,875,558 00
Loans secured by stocks and otherwise	1,307,900 00
Real estate and claims due the company, estimated at	600,000 00
Premium notes and bills receivable	1,822,936 36
Cash in bank	331,435 15
Total amount of assets	$13,437,729 51

Six per cent. interest on the outstanding certificates of profits will be paid to the holders thereof, or their legal representatives, on and after Tuesday, the 3d of February next.

Certificates of the outstanding certificates of the issue of 1876 will be redeemed and paid to the holders thereof, or their legal representatives, on and after Tuesday, the 3d of February next. Each of these certificates is to be endorsed with the amount to be redeemable will cease. The certificates to be produced at the time of payment and cancelled to the extent paid.

A dividend of 40 per cent. is declared on the net earned premiums of the marine risks for the year ending 31st December, 1879, for which certificates will be issued on and after Tuesday, the 3d of May next.

By order of the Board.

J. H. CHAPMAN, Secretary.

TRUSTEES:

J. D. JONES	HORACE GRAY
CHARLES DENNIS	EDMUND W. CORLIES
W. H. H. MOORE	JOHN ELLIOTT
LEWIS CURTIS	ALEXANDER V. BLAKE
CHARLES E. RUSSELL	ROBT. B. MINTURN
SAMUEL LOW	CHARLES H. MARSHALL
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A. A. HAYES	ROBERT L. STUART
JOHN CREIGHTON	JAMES S. DE FOREST
WILLIAM LOCKYER	BENJAMIN H. CHAMPLIN
BENJAMIN H. FIELD	CHARLES E. LEVERICH
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SAMUEL W. DODGE	WILLIAM H. FOGG
ROYAL PHELPS	PETER V. King
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Chicago, Milwaukee & St. Paul R. R. Co.

FIRST MORTGAGE 7 PER CENT. BONDS. DUE IN 1898.

Interest January and July.

MORTON, BLISS & CO.

OFFER FOR SALE

$3,000,000 of the above bonds, secured by a first lien upon the Company's Iowa and Dakota Extension. These bonds are issued at the rate of $10,000 per mile of completed road, and the total issue cannot, by the terms of the mortgage, exceed $15,000 per mile. The share capital of the Company amounts to $12,979,492 preferred, and $15,404,261 of common stock.

PRESENT PRICE, 108½ AND INTEREST.

Minneapolis and St. Louis Railway

SEVEN PER CENT. GOLD BONDS.

Secured by a first mortgage upon the extension of the railway from Albert Lea to Fort Dodge, Iowa.

The issue is limited to $10,000 per mile of completed road.

Interest payable December and June. Principal payable 1909.

For sale at par and interest by

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LLOYD & McKEAN,

NO. 48 WALL-STREET,

BUY AND SELL ON COMMISSION, ALL SECURITIES DEALT IN AT THE NEW-YORK STOCK AND MINING EXCHANGES.

EXECUTIVE OFFICE, TEXAS AND PACIFIC RAILWAY COMPANY, PHILADELPHIA, Pa., Jan. 20, 1880.

THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THIS company had, in accordance with the terms of the mortgage, directed the issue of scrip for accrued interest on its Income and Land Grant Bonds from their respective dates of issuance to July 1, 1879. This scrip will be issued to holders of bonds registered on the evening of Jan. 31, 1880, and will be deliverable on and after Feb. 10, following.

Registration and transfer books will be closed from the 1st to 5th of February, both inclusive.

GEO. H. KRUMBHAAR, Treasurer.

PARTIES DESIROUS OF DEALING IN

STOCKS,

Should write to or call on the old Banking house of HOWES & COMPANY, No. 11 Wall-st., New-York, (Formerly HOWES & MACY.)

This house transacts a general Stock Commission business, with very large experience.

Interest allowed on deposits at 4 per cent, payable on demand.

WOOD & DAVIS, BANKERS AND BROKERS, 31 PINE-ST., N. Y. GOVERNMENT BONDS, MUNICIPAL AND RAILROAD SECURITIES BOUGHT AND SOLD ON COMMISSION. CHOICE RAILROAD MORTGAGE BONDS FOR SALE.

C. D. WOOD. SAM'L D. DAVIS.

CALIFORNIA AND CONSOLIDATED VIRGINIA MINING COMPANIES.—Parties holding stock in either of these companies, and wishing to be represented at a proposed meeting in this City, are invited to send their names, &c., to WILLIAM WARD & CO., No. 52 Broadway, New-York, indorsed "Bonanza Meeting."

ALL STOCKHOLDERS OF THE GERMANIA PETROLEUM COMPANY call on or write to JOHN PONDIE, No. 19 Broad-st. All stockholders please bring stock.

A NEW-YORK AND OSWEGO MIDLAND Railroad bonds and stock wanted. EDW. C. FOX & CO., No. 5 Wall-st.

FIRE INSURANCE STOCKS BOUGHT AND sold by R. R. BAILEY, No. 7 Pine-st. "A specialty."

BUSINESS CHANCES.

FOR SALE—AN OLD-ESTABLISHED LUMBER business on Hudson River. Capital required, about $5,000. The yard and building will be rented or sold. W. H. WELLS, No. 97 Liberty-st.

WANTED—A GENTLEMAN TO REPRESENT A first-class publication in the mining interest. Only those with references address SILVER, Box No. 154 Tribune Office.

LOST AND FOUND.

LOST—BANK-BOOK NO. 177,859 ON BLEECKER-STREET SAVINGS BANK. Finder will return it to the bank.

LOST—BANK-BOOK NO. [illegible] SAVINGS BANK FOR [illegible]

BOARDING AND LODGING.

THE UP-TOWN OFFICE OF THE TIMES.

The up-town office of THE TIMES is located at No. 1,356 Broadway, south-east corner of 32d-st. Open daily

AN INSANE WOMAN KILLED

BLOODSHED IN THE "RETREAT" ON BLACKWELL'S ISLAND.

MARIA OTTNER POUNDED TO DEATH WITH A WOODEN PAIL BY ONE OF HER CRAZY ROOM-MATES—ONE NURSE IN CHARGE OF 200 DANGEROUS LUNATICS.

The "Retreat" is one of the buildings on Blackwell's Island in which lunatics are confined. It is a gloomy-looking stone building, and in it are kept about 200 insane women who are likely to become excited and noisy. The rooms or cells are, of course, small, but in some of them, if not all, three insane patients sleep. It is the custom on Blackwell's Island to put all these 200 excitable, insane inmates of the "Retreat" under charge of a single female nurse, who is "assisted" by two women from the Work-house. How well this system works of putting three lunatics in a small room, 200 in the building, and all under the care of one woman nurse, is shown by a homicide which took place in one of the rooms of the "Retreat" early on Saturday morning, the facts of which first came to light yesterday. The one nurse in charge of the 200 lunatics on Friday night was a Mrs. Stevens. At about 5:30 o'clock on Saturday morning she heard a great racket in the cell occupied by Maria Ottner, Julia Christ, and one other patient. Mrs. Stevens hurried to the cell, opened the door, and found the lunatics engaged in a fierce rough-and-tumble fight. Maria Ottner was standing by Julia Christ's bed, with blood streaming from her head and face. Julia had in her hand a small wooden pail, with which she had been pounding her fellow-lunatic. The nurse rushed between the crazy women and succeeded in separating them, and then telegraphed for the doctor. Maria Ottner was found to be very badly hurt, and was taken to the hospital ward. She lay unconscious until after 7 o'clock on Monday evening, when she died. Yesterday, about noon, Dr. MacDonald, the physician in charge of the Lunatic Asylum, went before Coroner Ellinger and made the following statement:

"On Saturday last, at 10 o'clock P. M., I was notified by one of the assistant physicians that Maria Ottner, an inmate of the institution for the past two years, had been struck on the head with a small wooden pail by another patient, Julia Christ, at 5:30 A. M. She had been removed to the hospital ward, and when I found her at the place named she presented the right eye black and a contusion of the scalp. She was unconscious. Deceased was an inmate of the 'Retreat,' one of about 35 patients in the same hall. She slept in the same room with two *others, one of whom was Julia Christ. The character of the patients in the 'Retreat' is usually* excitable and noisy, but not violent. There are about 200 patients altogether in the 'Retreat,' and they are in charge of 11 nurses in the daytime and only one at night, who is assisted by two Work-house women. I am only temporarily in charge of the Blackwell's Island Asylum, and have been for two months past. When I was given charge of the same I divided my time and attention as equitably as possible between the Ward's Island and Blackwell's Island asylums. I left Blackwell's Island at 6 P. M. on the 23d inst., and returned at noon of the 24th; remained until Monday and returned on Tuesday. The deceased died at 7:30 P. M. on Monday. She had been in a feeble condition, suffering from chronic diarrhea, for several months past, and was very filthy in her habits. The cause of death was extravasation of blood on the brain, producing compression. On investigating the affair, I was told by the night nurse, Mrs. Stevens, that she heard the sound of blows coming from the room. On entering she found the deceased fighting with other patients. The woman Christ had the pail in her hand. She separated them and telegraphed for the doctor. Deceased was standing by the bed of Julia Christ."

A Times reporter went over to the Lunatic Asylum to try and get a more detailed account of the murder than was given in Dr. MacDonald's statement. Dr. Hinkley was found acting as Superintendent in the absence of Dr. MacDonald, who was not on the Island. Dr. Hinkley said he had no authority to permit the reporter to visit the "Retreat," nor could he be allowed to have a talk with the one female nurse who had charge of the 200 inmates of the "Retreat" on Friday night and witnessed the fight, which ended in homicide. The Doctor was firm in his refusal to act without orders from some one higher than he in authority. Finally, he consented to communicate with Dr. MacDonald by telegraph, asking the latter whether the reporter could see Mrs. Stevens. Shortly afterwards Dr. Hinkley returned and said that Dr. MacDonald had sent word that representatives of the press must get their information from the Commissioners.

"Where is Dr. MacDonald?" Dr. Hinkley was asked.

"He is on Ward's Island," was the Doctor's answer, and the reporter hurried to Ward's Island, where the Male Lunatic Asylum is situated, in quest of him. Dr. Washburne, chief assistant physician on that island, said that Dr. MacDonald had not been there in the afternoon at all, and that he [Dr. Washburne] had received Dr. Hinkley's message, and sent word in reply that the Doctor was not on Ward's Island. The rule requiring all information to be filtered through the Commissioners before being given to the reporters had been in force, Dr. Washburne said, for a long time, and there was no use in trying to get any news except through them. The next thing was to see one of the Commissioners, and the reporter found Mr. Townsend Cox at his home in Fourth-avenue. Mr. Cox declared that he knew nothing at all about the case except what Commissioner Brennan had read to him from an evening paper. *He saw no reason, he said,* why the reporter should not see everybody and everything about the homicide, for he was sure he had nothing to conceal.

"Then" said the reporter, "will you give me a permit to go back to the Island and see Mrs. Stevens?"

"Oh, no," answered the Commissioner. "I wouldn' give the permission without laying the matter before the full board." Mr. Cox could not be persuaded to change his opinion.

Dr. Hinkley was asked at the asylum how large the cell is in which the three fighting lunatics slept. He showed one small and one comparatively large room in the main building, and said the room in the "Retreat" was "between the two" in size. This would make the sleeping apartment of the three crazy women a room about 12 by 10 feet, as near as the reporter could judge. This was the only information the Doctor would give. He even declined to permit the reporter to examine Maria Ottner's commitment papers, or to look over the books to see when and whence she came to the asylum.

The body of the murdered woman was taken to the Morgue in this City. Coroner Ellinger has summoned a jury, and they will view the body to-day. It is probable that the inquest will be adjourned until next week, when it is understood Coroner Ellinger proposes to make a searching investigation into the methods of the institution which places one female nurse in sole charge of 200 excitable insane women.

THE NEW RAILROAD TO NEW-HAVEN.

The New-York, Connecticut, and Eastern Railroad Company has been organized in this City by the election of the following Directors and officers: President—George L. Clark, of Providence; Vice-President—Amos M. Kidder, of New-York; Treasurer—Cornelius V. Sidell, of New-York; Directors—S. Lands, Francis W. Ford, Sheldon Collins, H. Walter Webb, James S. Leeds, Charles D. Ingersoll, H. C. Hepburn, H. E. McElligatt, and David Lydig. The object of the company is to build a road from this City to New-Haven through the towns of Greenwich, Stamford, Darien, Norwalk, Westport, Fairfield, Bridgeport, Stamford, Huntington, Milford, Orange, and others. A union will be made with the Derby Road at Allingtown, two miles from New-Haven. The survey has been made. The total length of the road will be somewhat over 48 miles, and its estimated cost, exclusive of rolling stock, is $6,000,000. The capital of the company is $4,000,000. It is organized under the general railroad act passed by the Connecticut Legislature as a sort of compromise for the defeat of the "parallel railroad" scheme for which the gentlemen who are interested in the present project made such a long and stubborn fight in opposition to the New-York and New-Haven Company. The company will be strong in Congress enough in the interior of Connecticut to avoid crossing any navigable streams, and there will consequently be no necessity to apply to that State for permission to erect bridges. It is intended to proceed with the construction of the road as soon as possible.

THE NEW RAILROAD BRIDGE.

Corporation Counsel Whitney sent a decision to the Dock Commissioners yesterday in reference to the application of certain parties for permission to build a bridge over the Harlem River at Harlem, near One Hundred and Fifty-seventh-street, connecting the Metropolitan Elevated Railway with the West Side and Yonkers Railway upon plans recently published in THE TIMES. He says that if the bridge is built in accordance with the plans proved by the Rapid Transit Commissioners, the Dock Department ought to give its consent to the construction. A map of the proposed route, approved by the Dock Commissioners, is on file, and their consent has already been given. The Corporation Counsel also advises the Dock Commissioners that they have power to grant the application of the Harlem Bridge, Morris-heights and Fordham-railroad Company for permission to build a bridge across the Harlem River at Morris-heights, connecting the Fordham-road with the Harlem River Railroad. The Corporation Counsel says that the Dock Commissioners have no